

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

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Letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper, with ink, and upon but one side.

Correspondence from particular farmers, giving the results of their experience, is solicited.

Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, which will be printed or not, at the writer's wish.

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AGRICULTURAL.

PRUNE when the limbs are small.

A CARELESS hired man is bad enough hoeing corn, but he is worse than useless in fancy dairy.

WHEN A COW is in very poor condition it will affect the quality of her milk. The longer a cow stays in milk the smaller the yield and the richer the milk.

ICE houses must be filled now if at all. More and more every year farmers are putting up their own ice, using it to cool milk and butter, and to preserve eggs, fruit and vegetables in warm weather.

THE best kind of a tree to order, everything considered, is one about two years of age, with a straight whip four to five feet high. Such a tree will be likely to live, will grow fast and the top can be formed any way that is wanted.

WOOD hauling and teaming manure should be done as much as possible before the busy time of early spring. Fine compost is needed for the early crops and the heap should be pulled over and mixed. Stop overheating by tramping down and adding water.

If not finished before now, the year's supply of firewood should be worked up and packed in the shed. Cold weather is the time to saw and split wood. No amount of grease will make a saw run easily in warm weather and through dry wood. Such work is very trying to back and saw alike, while wood with the frost out is very hard to split.

FEBRUARY is a good month in which to trim trees when the weather permits. Fruit trees should be scraped at the same time as far up as the tool will reach. The surplus wood and interfering branches should be removed, and the larger wounds covered with grafting wax, or at least with thick paint. Take away all young sprouts not fitted to make good branches.

It will pay to spend plenty of time with the farm animals and poultry. A cow well wintered is half summered, while a hen that is not made to lay in winter will never pay much of a profit to her owner. A farmer who studies his animals, who learns their way of looking at things and who supplies their real wants always gets a return for his trouble.

THE majority of large apple growers in the northwest seem to be adopting the close-setting system of orcharding. They cut out the alternate north and south rows soon after the trees come into bearing, later on they cut out the alternate east and west rows when the trees become crowded, thus the permanent orchard is left with trees 30 feet apart. During the first few years a great many more apples are obtained than by the usual methods.

A Promising Fodder Plant.

The new fodder crop, Japanese barnyard millet, is attracting a good deal of attention. In rich land it grows six feet high and produces nearly as much green stuff as does fodder corn. It is hard to dry for hay on account of the thick stems, but when cut away and fed green, the cattle like it better than fodder corn, and it produces more milk and makes good ensilage.

Without Hired Help.

Many small farmers find they can get along best without hiring help. They should manage crops which can be attended to alone and with which most of the work can be done with machinery. The worst pull comes in haying time when there is considerable hoeing which needs to be done right away. The mowing machine, horse rake and hay fork help out the struggle. If as it exists there is more difficulty when the time comes to fill it. It is possible to cut ensilage and fill a silo alone. Hiring a little help then will pay if ever. Dairying, poultry and a little mixed farming is a good business for the one-man farm.

Don't Throw Land Away.

It is a mistake to let the pastures grow up to a mixture of brush and worthless wood. The owner should decide at once whether it is worth while to clear it off for pasture. If not let him do the next best thing, which is either to plant it to orchard trees or some valuable timber or nut tree. A field of pitch pines for instance, although it will not mature for 40 years, will even when half grown cause the land to sell for much more than if left to brush.

Apple trees can be grown on such land although it is rather slow work. But anything profitable is better than the mixture of scrub oak, brush and berry bushes usually found on such land.

The Popular New Feeds.

The use of corn meal for milk cows is being gradually supplanted by other products. Many farmers in the milk producing districts whose ration used to be the old one of half shorts and half corn meal now substitute gluten and cottonseed meal, claiming that in this way they get more milk, with less risk of injury to the cow.

Quite a common ration is two parts of shorts to one part each of gluten and cottonseed. Gluten meal and gluten feed seem to be, however, more in favor with the milk farmers than does cottonseed meal. Lined meal although often recommended is but comparatively little used among the milk farmers.

Map the Orchard.

Labels on the fruit trees are a nuisance, for attached by wires they are sure to cause injury to the tree by tightening of the wire as the tree grows. If not attached by wire they are likely to get lost. The best plan is to make a rough map of the orchard, marking all the varieties and keeping the map where it will not get lost.

Where mulching material is used for young trees, it is necessary to put on wire tree protectors or the mice will burrow under the hay and gnaw the trees.

A Cheap Silo.

The most convenient time to build a silo, if it is to be located inside the barn, is during the last part of the winter, when part of the hay is out of the way and when there is comparative leisure for such work. A plain, small silo, six feet square and sixteen feet deep of two thicknesses of rough boards with tarred papers between, can be put up at a cost not to exceed \$25, but it will pay to use planned and jointed boards. Paint the inside with tar or gasoline paint. In building a silo allow a cubic foot capacity for each cow per day.

For house plants use garden earth, dry and sifted barnyard manure and a little wood ash.

Stock and Dairy Notes.

The smallest successful silo on record so far as known is that of a Rockland County, N. Y., farmer, who puts up ensilage for a herd of two cows. The silo is circular, the ensilage keeps well, and the silo is much esteemed by its owner.

Gluten meal is becoming more and more popular. When it is used with plenty of shorts, cows seem to stand very high feeding without injury.

A Long Island dairy farmer finds his dairy cows cost him to keep \$45 to \$50 a year, each, on the average. He feeds 40 pounds of corn ensilage, five to ten pounds hay, from 15 to 18 pounds of grain, consisting of a mixture of bran, middlings and brewer's grain. This is liberal feeding. He sold from fourteen cows \$2280 worth of milk in one year.

If someone would discover how to pick out the calves that would make good cows, he would be a benefactor indeed. At present about the best that can be done is to look to the record of mother and both grandmothers and pick out the calves with good form, well shaped udder, and without a tendency to grow fat.

Feed the calf to make a strong body; oats, bran, lined meal, clover hay. Give it as much milk as can be spared.

Gasoline engines are becoming quite popular on the farm as a source of power. It is always ready to start by simply turning a wheel, requires no engineer and unlike a horse and treadmill does not back or kick or require touching up with a whip.

Feed Trees.

For orchard trees on rough, unplowed land a good dressing is a pound of sulfate of potash and half a pound nitrate of soda spread over the surface three or four feet around the tree. As the trees grow larger, more should be used. Professor Maynard says, "I would not advise anyone to plant fruit trees on rough land unless they can put on as much fertilizer in value as it would cost to cultivate, and unless they keep the brush cut to save loss of moisture." In addition to the above the land should be of good quality, that is good enough to raise corn or potatoes except for the rocks and brush.

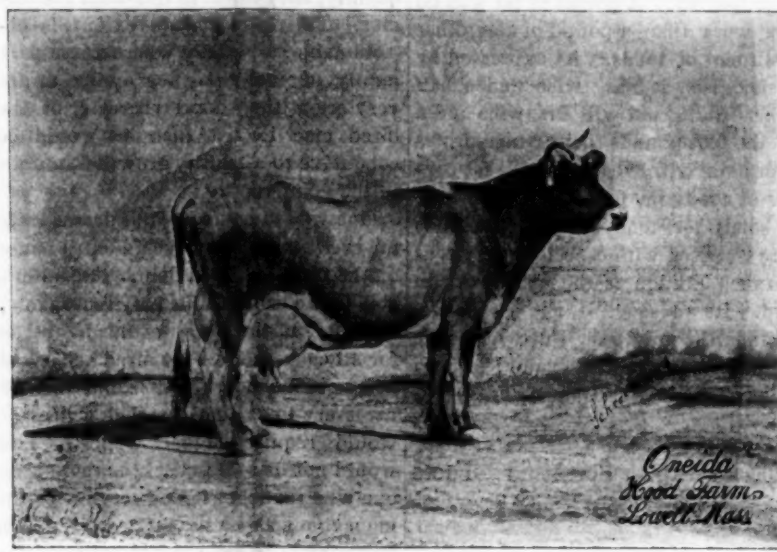
12,734 Lbs. Milk in One Year.

Oneida 42,100, shown in our illustration this week, was dropped March 11, 1885. She is out of that grand old cow, Dêe, and is by Combination, being one of the few daughters left of that great bull. Combination has 25 tested daughters and over 70 granddaughters with butter records, among them being the Hood Farm cows, Brown Bessie and Merrie Maiden, the champion butter cows at the World's Fair, and the only Jersey cows that proved superior to all rivals at the fair and churn.

Oneida is a large cow, weighing nearly 1000 pounds. She dropped a calf when 11 years and 7 months old, and milked in one day 50 lbs. 5 oz. In one week she gave 335 lbs. 3 oz. which made 16 lb. 13 oz. of marketable butter. By marketable butter we mean butter that is made for the table of one of the largest and best hotels in Boston, the Adams House. Oneida's milk record for the year from Oct. 17, 1896, to Oct. 17, 1897, was 12,734 lbs. 11 oz., with an average Babcock test of 4.27 per cent. of fat, 533 lbs. 12 oz. of butter fat, the equivalent by adding one-fifth to the test, of 652 lbs. 8 oz. of butter. She dropped a solid colored bull calf Jan. 27, 1898.

FARM produce should be steadily marketed. Study the catalogues and order seeds and nursery stock early. Dealers are likely to fill early orders with greater care. The early hot-bed may be started the last of the month.

If some milk farmers would sell off their poorest cows and ship only the product of their best cows the milk surplus would be reduced and the farmers who did the weeding out would make more money.



ONEIDA 42100,
Owned at Hood Farm, Lowell, Mass.

N. E. Milk Producers' Union.

A committee of the board of directors of the New England Milk Producers' Union met the contractors at the office of C. Brigham & Co., in Boston, Mass., on Saturday, Feb. 19, in relation to an allowance for the skim milk sold, inasmuch as the producers were now carrying the entire surplus.

At the meeting of the above parties on Feb. 5th to fix the price for the surplus, the skim milk question came up, and the contractors claimed that the new officers did not understand the conditions of the trade made, and that the old officers should be consulted in order that the matter might be better understood. The old officers were appealed to and the following statement which was published in the New England Farmer of Feb. 12th, was their understanding of the matter:

"The directors claimed that the contractors should account to the union for sales of skim milk now that they pay full price for none of the surplus. The contractors felt back on the narrow letter of the trade which was that they should pay for surplus milk its butter value. The contractors completely ignored what they have frequently admitted heretofore, that the intent of the trade was that they should account to the farmers for any commercial value that there might be in the surplus milk regardless of how it is got. In years past butter the been the only income from it, and so the trade has alluded only to butter, but the contractors are morally holden to account to the farmers for the sales of skim milk, particularly in view of the fact that at the present time they do not pay full price for any of the surplus."

It was confidently expected that both ex-President Gleason and ex-Secretary Whitaker of the New England Milk Producers' Union would be present at the conference, as they were urged by request to be there, but they were not. After a protracted discussion of the subject, matters were left in the same unsettled condition as before, which might not have been the case if all the parties had been present.

In justice to Messrs. Gleason and Whitaker it should be stated that Mr. Gleason was not present owing to a previous business engagement which precluded his attending, and he expected that Mr. Whitaker would be present who understood the situation as fully as he did. Mr. Whitaker wrote a letter Feb. 18 to the secretary of the union, stating that his position in the matter might be misconstrued if he should attend and take part at the meeting of the present board of directors and the contractors, and that it would be in better taste for him to keep away from the meeting. Owing to the letter being misdirected it failed to arrive in season for explanation to be made and Mr. Whitaker's attendance secured.

The contractors claimed that the trade was made that only 2 1-2 per cent. of the surplus should be carried during the six months from Oct. 1st, 1897, to April 1st, 1898, and they could not see the difference between carrying 2 1-2 per cent. for the entire six months or carrying 5 per cent. for three months, as the result would be practically the same and entitle them to all there was in the skim milk. In fact, they could

not see why it was not understood that 2 1-2 per cent. of the surplus should not have been carried for each month of the six months instead of 5 per cent. of the surplus being carried for three months of the six months. Carrying 5 per cent. of the surplus for three months caused a mistaken notion of the trade that was made.

From various reports handed in from various sources it would seem that very little skim milk finds its way into the sewers, that it is either sold as skim milk or put upon the market in other forms to better advantage than it would run it into the sewers. This is a matter which should be thoroughly investigated and ventilated before another trade with the contractors is made, and if this result is to be accomplished, every person who has joined the union should do his duty.

In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, circulars for the estimate of price for the coming six months have been sent to the various sections. Meetings to make these estimates should be called promptly and the results of the voting sent in to the Central Union, and every person should be present at the meetings of their sections when called.

New Notions about Insects.

Professor M. V. Slingerland of Cornell University, gave a lecture recently before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, his subject being "Some New Notions about Old Insects." He said, in part:

"For many centuries the insect world has afforded one of the most fascinating of all fields for observation by those who speculate upon the various phases of that mysterious something called life and they get some of their most interesting facts from the insect world. Entomology, or the science of insects, is thus an old science and has had many devotees."

"The first book devoted entirely to insects was published in England in 1634. It is a quaint old volume entitled 'Theatrum Insectorum,' by Drs. Penny and Monfett. The volume is a compendium of what was known about insects previous to the seventeenth century. It was not until about the beginning of the present century, however, that the lives and habits of insects came to be studied with a view to discovering their most vulnerable points, that men might the more easily destroy them. In short, that phase of the study of insect life which has come to be known as economic or applied entomology, is scarcely a century old."

ENTOMOLOGY IN AMERICA.

"In America nearly everything relating to insects has been published since the Revolution. In 1841 Dr. Harris' 'Treatise on the Insects of Massachusetts' was published. This simply, concisely, yet beautifully written account of what the author had seen and learned about insects, justly entitles him to be called the 'Father of American Economic Entomology,' and the science of modern entomology may well be said to have had its birth in America with the publication of this noteworthy volume by the State of Massachusetts."

"Inquiries from such horticulturists as have studied the injurious insects have stimulated workers in entomology

to study our injurious insects with renewed vigor. The result is that the so-called 'remedies' now recommended are more often based upon a more scientific and rational knowledge of the insect and horticultural conditions than previously. The more progressive horticulturists now realize that the science of spraying has come to stay."

"Climatic and other unknown conditions often cause a considerable variation in the habit and life of an insect. The same insect may pass through but one generation in one locality, while in another state perhaps only one or two hundred miles away, it may be double-brooded. It may lay its eggs on the fruit in one state and on the adjacent leaves in another. Oftentimes a successful method of fighting an injurious insect depends upon some apparently trifling habit which may be easily overlooked. My experience in studying the habits of insects during the past few years has led me to believe that there is much to be learned about those insects that we have thought we knew all about."

THE CODLING MOTH.

"Recent additions to our knowledge of that old and familiar pest, the codling-moth, illustrate most of the facts above mentioned. If there is any one of our common insect pests about which we have thought that there was little new to be learned it is the codling-moth. There was scarcely any change in our stereotyped biography of this pest for half a century or more previous to the present decade. In 1878 a practical fruit grower accidentally discovered that when he sprayed his trees with Paris green, he not only rid the orchard of canker-worms, but that the apples on the sprayed part were much less eaten by codling-moths. It was proved that one could kill a large percentage of the apple-worms by applying a poison spray just after the blossoms fall. This was soon demonstrated by many experimenters; the late Professor Lodeman satisfied himself that often at least seventy per cent of the apples that would be ruined by the worms could be saved by spraying. He could not see just how it was accomplished, and often appealed to me for an explanation. I could find no definite observations recorded upon the habits of the newly hatched worms; and it was only quite recently that anyone had ever seen the eggs of the codling-moth. My studies have resulted in some new notions about the habits of the insect."

"All are familiar with the caterpillar stage of this pest, but not so many have seen the adult insect. A new and more conspicuous difference between the adult male and female has been discovered. In the under side of each front wing of the males only there is a narrow, elongated, blackish spot. This one can usually determine the sex of a codling-moth at a glance by the presence or absence of these black markings."

"It is about the egg and the habits of the newly hatched worm that the most new light has been shed by recent investigations. The usual stereotyped statement as taken from our leading textbooks on entomology, has been 'The moth lays its eggs singly in the maturing blossom of the apple just as the petals fall. As soon as the caterpillar hatches it burrows into the apple.' I have now learned that the eggs are thin, oval, scale-like objects, not quite as large as the head of a pin, resembling a minute drop of milk; instead of being on or in the calyx they are on the fruit near the calyx in old curculio scars, near the stem, or even on the leaves of the tree. Thus the commonly accepted notion regarding the egg-laying habits of insect must be discarded. We now know that the eggs are not laid until a week or more after the petals fall from most varieties of apples and not when the petals fall, as was the common notion."

THE APPLE WORM.

"The little apple-worm crawls about the surface of the fruit until it finds the calyx, stem or where a leaf touches; no feeding is done on the outside of the fruit, except to gnaw a minute entrance hole through the skin. More often the little worm squeezes itself through between the two calyx lobes and gets its

first meals in the blossom end. As nearly eighty per cent. enter here when we spray, soon after the blossoms fall, we deposit some arsenic in the calyx-cavity, where Nature kindly takes care of it for us by closing up the calyx lobes, until ten days or two weeks later, when the little apple-worm includes it in the menu of his first few meals. We can thus hope to reach with a poison spray only those apple-worms which enter the blossom ends of the forming fruits in the spring. To do this the application must be made soon after the blossoms fall, when the calyx is open. I can conceive of no possible way in which a majority of the 15 or 20 per cent. of the worms enter the fruit at some other point in the spring and all the worms of the subsequent broods can be effectively reached with a poison spray. The falling of the blossoms is the signal to begin spraying; the closing of the calyx lobes, a week or two later, is the signal to stop."

THE PEACH BORER.

"Another and familiar insect pest which has received considerable attention at the insectary of the Cornell Experiment Station is the peach-borer. It is an American insect, and for more than a hundred years it has been recognized as a very serious obstacle to the growing of peaches in this country. Almost everyone who has grown this luscious fruit is only too familiar with the telltale gummy mass found around the base of peach trees in which the grub-like caterpillar of this pest is at work."

"The life history and habits of the insect were fairly well known to the earlier writers. In the latitude of New York the borers mature late in June; they spin a cocoon of silk and particles of bark near the entrance of their burrows. The females, soon after hatching, begin to lay their eggs on the bark of the peach trees. The caterpillars hatch in from seven to ten days, and at once begin their destructive work under the bark, at or below the surface of the ground. They continue to work until cold weather sets in, when they ensconce themselves in a loose cocoon, like home near the surface of the soil, and there remain all winter without feeding. This winter habit seems to have been only recently observed. In May they begin to work again, and do the most damage in June."

"After three years' careful tests of all the substances which gave promise of being effective against the borer at the Cornell Experiment Station, twenty-one different things were tried. The following were ineffectual: Carbon bisulphide, asafetida and aloes, lime salt and sulphur wash, resin wash (two applications), strong solution of hard soap, Hale's wash (two applications), tallow, which formed a thick and complete coating lasting until the next year, tansy grown around the base of the trees, whale oil soap (two applications), whitewash, paint made with lime and linseed oil, and wire gauze protector, which should be theoretically a perfect and mechanical protector."

"Six substances tried proved partially effective; of these two might be termed mechanical, the old 'moulding system,' and tarred roofing paper carefully tied around the base and extending below the ground; this seemed to protect against two-thirds of the borers. White paint kept out from one-third to one-half of the insects. White paint and paris green killed many of the young trees. Coal tar was very effective, only a few borers succeeding in getting started in trees brushed with it, and it did no injury to the trees. The following proved sure death to the trees: Paris green mixed with glue, trapezium (German caterpillar lime), and dieldrin."

"Nothing was found which would keep all the borers out and not injure the trees. A wash which has to be applied more than once a year will not pay, for one can dig out borers quicker. The 'digging out' process is certainly the surest yet devised, and can be done with about as little expenditure of time and money as it will take to apply washes or mechanical contrivances thoroughly enough to keep the borers out. Although we did not accomplish our ideal, the experiment did demonstrate what is often equally valuable and important to know, that is, to know what not to do."

LIVE STOCK FOR SALE.

DENVER, COL.

s Ploughman, Boston

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

BOSTON, FEBRUARY 26, 1898.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN FARMERS' MEETING

Saturday, February 26, 1898, 10 A. M.

Essay by BENJ. P. WARE of Clifton, Mass. Subject, Taxation.

The next MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN Farmers' Meeting will be held at Wesleyan Hall, 36 Broadfield St., Saturday morning, February 26, 1898, beginning at ten o'clock. Mr. Benj. P. Ware of Clifton, Mass., will speak on Taxation.

In selecting subjects for our meetings, we have usually confined ourselves to those which have been strictly agricultural in their nature, relating more especially to the methods and principles of farming. The subject chosen for our next meeting is a slight departure from our usual practice, but it is one of much interest to the farmer, especially at this time, in view of the bill now before the legislature which, if passed, will greatly affect the farmers' interests. There has been much discussion on the subject, and there will doubtless be no lack of it at the meeting. The speaker, Mr. Ware, is well known to all agriculturists in this state, and he will speak from a wide knowledge of the subject, and what he will have to say will be worth listening to. Many who have studied the subject thoroughly will be present at the meeting, and all who are interested in it will be cordially welcomed.

SELLING hay is selling the farm by the cartload; better keep more stock.

THE cow that the farmers want is the one with ten months in a year record.

SOME hard thinking in winter will save considerable hard work in summer.

EARLY chicks, spring broilers, early-laying pullets, winter eggs—that is the way to make poultry pay.

Cow keeping is no bonanza, but the dairy may be counted on to do its full share in paying for the farm.

It is worth while to raise calves on the farm for the satisfaction there is in a herd free from tricks and as tame as pet kittens.

A LANTERN lighted early in the morning is a good sign. It shows that the thrifty farmer is not contented with short days which the season allows, but is up and attending to the work in hand.

GOOD nature has a money value in a cow. See to it that the calves become good natured cows. Don't bang them on the head with a pall or let the dog worry them.

AN old and valued subscriber of the PLOUGHMAN, Mr. John Stearns of New, ton Center, Mass., died at his home last week, aged 78 years. Mr. Stearns had been a subscriber to the PLOUGHMAN for fifty-five years.

SOME men who would never be good farmers of themselves have done fairly well by simply "doing as father did." But are good things for a blind horse. It is well for some stupid sons that they had enterprising fathers.

IN winter and early spring the social side of farm life should be most active. Invite the neighbors to occasional social gatherings. Organize reading clubs among the young people. The children are after all the best crop of the farm.

THE last Farmer's Meeting was about the best on record. The hall was nearly filled and the discussion was good; the standing and character of the audience being like Mr. Ellis' milk-first class. Be on hand for the meeting this Saturday.

By selecting the best milkers from almost any breed it is possible to get a strain of high milk producing power. But the most rapid progress will be made by beginning with a breed already famous for milk production and improving it by careful selection and judicious breeding. It is easiest to breed "with the grain" so to speak. That is to pursue still further qualities for which a breed has begun to be noted.

THE tuberculosis scare and the talk about ventilation, pure air, etc., has driven some farmers to the opposite extreme. Exercise does not mean that the cow should be turned out to shiver two or three hours in the March wind, with humped back and bristling hair nor does pure air mean that the door should be left open to make a draft through the stanchions. There is a golden mean in such matters.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hood's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. It offers one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The destruction of the U. S. battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana occupies a very large place in the news of the day and the investigation as to its cause is being carried on as rapidly as possible. The photographs taken of the vessel show the enormous power of the force which wrecked the ship and all kinds of stories are afloat concerning the reason for the disaster. Investigation was delayed until experienced divers could be obtained and the request made that Spanish divers should accompany the Americans was refused by the United States government. A naval board of inquiry has been appointed and began its investigations last Monday. \$200,000 has been appropriated for the purpose of raising the Maine and it is hoped that she will not prove a total loss.

The American government and the American people have shown themselves equal to the emergency which so suddenly presented itself. The first natural conclusion was that the Maine destruction was caused by Spanish treachery, yet the message sent by Captain Sigsbee, asking that "judgment should be suspended," proved to be the wise policy of both the administration and people. While the excitement has been intense and all news from the scene of disaster eagerly read, yet the feeling aroused has been controlled, every act of the administration has been wise and well considered as was necessary in such a delicate situation, and the American people have shown themselves able to wait quietly until the full facts of the case are known and to trust that those in authority will do all that is necessary to uphold and defend the nation's honor. The spirit shown is not unlike that advised by Washington, whose birthday the nation has so recently celebrated, when he said:—

"Be united. Be Americans. The name which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must exalt the just pride of patriotism more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. Let there be no sectionalism, no North, South, East or West; you are all dependent on one another, and should be one in union. Beware of attacks, open or covert, on the Constitution. Beware of the baneful effects of party spirit and of the ruin to which its extremes must lead. Do not encourage party spirit, but use every effort to mitigate and assuage it. Keep the departments of government separate, promote education, cherish the public credit, avoid debt. Observe justice and good faith toward all nations; have neither passionate attachments to any; and be independent politically of all. In one word, be a nation, be Americans and be true to yourselves."

China has at last arranged for a loan with Great Britain, and it is said that preliminary contracts have already been signed. This insures equal commercial rights for all nations in Chinese ports. The terms of this loan, to which France and Russia formally objected, are as follows: A loan of \$60,000,000 for fifty years, to be issued at par and to bear interest at only four per cent. This is probably the only loan, or offer of a loan, China has ever had at par, and certainly the only one at so low a rate of interest. It is stipulated that in consideration of the loan China shall do three things. The first is to open to all nations as treaty ports three additional cities, one in the north, one in the centre and one in the south of the empire. The only possible ground for objection to it is that one of the ports is in territory that Russia covets and another in a province that France hopes to secure, and, of course, the opening of such treaty ports would make those schemes of conquest less easy of execution. But such objection would be purely selfish, and would command no sympathy elsewhere in the world.

The second point is that China shall not alienate to any other Power any part of the Yang-tse-Kiang Valley. That valley is the central part of China, and for commercial purposes the best part of the whole empire. The third point is that Great Britain shall have the right to extend her Burmese railroad through the province of Yun-Yan, presumably to the upper reaches of the Yang-tse-Kiang River, which just touches the farther, or inner, border of that province. No demand for military occupation of the province is made, and the stipulation is moderation itself compared with the requirements of Russia in He-Lung-Tsian, Kirin and Leao-Tong.

Horticultural Hall has long been one of the landmarks of Boston, but for some years there has been much said in regard to the Horticultural Society making a change of some kind. The claim has been made that while the exhibitions have improved to a marked extent, the attendance and interest has diminished; that the rentals have decreased; and that the noise of the rapidly increasing business of this section of the city is disturbing and that the valuable library of the society is poorly accommodated. For these and other reasons, it was thought by many that a change should be made and three plans were proposed. The first was that the society should dispose of the property, which is worth about \$500,000, and move away. The second that it should tear down the old building and erect a skyscraper office building with quarters for the society therein. The third proposition was that the society tear down the old building, erect a new, high office building, but at the same time utilize it only for revenue and build a new home for itself elsewhere.

Of the three plans the first was more favored by those who desired a change and the radical elements of the society believed that if land in the Back Bay district, which could be obtained at a favor-

able figure at this time were purchased and a new building erected thereon, it would greatly further the society's interests. The subject was brought up at a meeting of the society last Saturday and a lively discussion was had over the matter. The claim was made by the more conservative members that the attendance at the society's exhibitions and meetings would fall off if the location was changed and that the present one was much more convenient for the practical business men of the membership. Also, that the present holdings were increasing in value and would continue to do so. After much discussion, it was decided to make no change by a vote of 105 to 65.

For nearly a quarter of a century the name of Frances E. Willard has been closely associated with the temperance movement and kindred reforms, and her death last week removes one of the strongest and most effective workers in this cause that the century has known. Educational work claimed her attention until 1874, when she gave up her profession to become the corresponding secretary of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and in 1879 became its president which office she held at the time of her death. The society is now regularly organized in every state and territory of the United States, and numbers about ten thousand local auxiliaries, with a following of from 200,000 to 300,000 women, whose badge is the white ribbon, and whose motto is "For God and Home and Native Land." Its work is divided into forty departments, with a superintendent—national, state and local—at the head of each, and is grouped under the heads of preventive, educational, evangelistic, social and legal work, besides the department of organization. It is the largest society ever founded and controlled exclusively by women. The headquarters are in Chicago where the society has established a Woman's Temperance Publication Association, which sent out in 1887 over 50,000,000 pages of temperance literature, and publishes five periodicals, besides leaflets, books, etc. It has also a lecture bureau, a National Temperance Hospital, and is building a temperance temple for the accommodation of its various departments. The scientific temperance education laws, now operative in twenty-two states and territories, were secured by the W. C. T. U., under the leadership of Mrs. Mary H. Hunt of Boston.

In 1883 Miss Willard founded the World's Christian Temperance Union on the same plan as that of the United States. It has already spread to the Sandwich Islands, Japan, India and China.

She visited every state and territory in the Union many times in the furtherance of the temperance cause as well as England. She used both pen and voice in the work of spreading temperance, and was equally fluent and forceful as writer and speaker. She possessed unusual ability as organizer and director, but she was never other than thoroughly womanly, and attractive and gracious in person and manner. Her death was not unexpected as for several years past she had been under a physician's care, but the news of the fatal termination of her illness brought sorrows to her hosts of friends all over the land.

Washington News.

Secretary Wilson is just completing a bulletin on the beet sugar industry, present and prospective, in this country, which is to be sent to Congress, where it is to be hoped it will be received favorably and a large edition printed for distribution to those farmers interested in the subject. The Secretary says the bulletin will be the most exhaustive publication on this question which has appeared in the United States, and will embody the results of the investigations and experiments which the Department and the Government Experiment Stations have been making during the past year.

"I am in favor of Americans making their own sugar, beet or other, as every body knows, by this time," said Mr. Wilson. "I have just written an article in the 'Forum,' setting forth the reasons why I believe that our farmers can grow beets with profit to themselves and benefit to the country. It seems that there are some timid people who think we cannot grow our own beets and produce our own sugar, but that we should continue sending to Germany, France and other countries over a million dollars annually for this necessity, but I think the country will soon show that they are mistaken. Why, leaving out the beet sugar question, we could grow sugar cane and sorghum sufficient to supply the United States with sugar. It is poor policy to send abroad for what we can raise at home, thus producing activity among our own farmers."

"How does the Sugar Trust like the idea of the beet sugar people eventually stopping all sugar imports. It would take away its occupation, would it not?"

"Yes; naturally. The trust has grown rich by importing raw sugars into the country and refining them, but each

No Gripe

When you take Hood's Pills. The big, old-fashioned, sugar-coated pills, which tear you all to pieces, are not in it with Hood's. Easy to take

Hood's Pills

and easy to operate, is true of Hood's Pills, which are up to date in every respect. Safe, certain and sure. All druggists. 25c. C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

SPRING NEEDS.

What Everybody Requires at This Season.

Some Things Are of the Utmost Importance to You.

This Will Tell You Just What You Most Need Now and How to Get It.

In the spring changes always take place in our systems which require attention. There is a tired, languid feeling, a depression, the digestive organs become deranged, the blood is bad causing the complexion to become affected and the person feels an inability to work. At such a time a spring medicine is absolutely necessary, and Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy is the medicine you want. It will overcome all these conditions. It will invigorate the blood, regulate the digestive organs, clear the complexion and make you feel strong and well.



Mrs. Rachel Hovey, 104 Preble St., Portland, Me.

"I was completely prostrated from the effects of two paralytic shocks which attacked both sides of my body. A friend recommended me to try Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy as a remedy, and I bought a bottle in H. H. Hay's drug store on Middle St. I found so much relief from this bottle that I continued to take it with increasing good results, and I am now much better than I ever expected to be again and give the credit I deserve to Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy for my recovery. I gladly give this testimonial so that other sufferers may be able to avail themselves of this excellent remedy."

You want health don't you? You want to get up in the morning and feel like doing a good day's work, do you not? And you want your children to feel strong and vigorous, don't you? Well, Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy will do all this.

It will give to you and your children perfect health and that is exactly what you want. It is the best spring medicine known. It was discovered by Dr. Greene, of 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., the most successful specialist in curing nervous and chronic diseases. He can be consulted free of charge, personally or by letter.

beet sugar factory will have its own refining plant attached, and thus the monopoly is at an end. Of course a change is not to come at once. It is going to be a comparatively slow process; the building up of sufficient factories to supply America with sugar, as it will take a large number of them and the cost of a plant is so great that it is a serious matter upon which to embark unless it is absolutely certain that the locality is capable of furnishing profitable beets. Capital, however, is taking hold eagerly. There are now eleven factories, I believe, in regular operation; there are about ten being actually constructed under contract, and the farmers and capitalists in at least thirty-five sections are holding meetings and discussing the advisability of such a move. I look to see a large increase in the business during the coming year."

The Secretary has just returned from a flying trip through Florida made at the suggestion of the President, in order to place the Department of Agriculture more fully at the disposal of the people of that State in assisting them in every way possible. Mr. Wilson expresses himself as much pleased and interested in the growing industries of the State. Since the war in Cuba, rapid strides have been made in the cigar industry in Florida. It is said that 40,000 Cubans have emigrated from the island and have settled in Key West, Tampa and in the interior of the State, bringing with them their skill in the manufacture of cigars, and their knowledge of growing tobacco with which to make them. This has greatly stimulated the growth of the weed in the State. Tobacco is grown in Florida on the heavy hammock land. There are generally two classes of land on the peninsula: high plain land and hammock land. The former is light, sandy and warm; the latter moist and heavy, but rich in humus. It is not suitable for the growth of oranges and other tender plants liable to frost during the winters, but is well adapted to the growth of tobacco. Mr. Wilson believes that the people of Florida can raise as fine tobacco as is raised in Cuba. In fact he says that many of the Cuban cigars smoked in America are made nowhere but in Florida. The figures of the Internal Revenue Office show at least that one hundred and sixty million cigars come annually from Florida. The Secretary thinks the case is very similar to that of American butter and cheese in foreign markets. The consumer in London eats American butter having purchased it for Danish or English butter, and revels in the belief that there is no other butter like it. Foreign consumers buy American cheese with a Canadian label and find in it a superior flavor; so the Northerner smokes his Florida "Havana," and detects a delightful aroma in the curling wreaths which can never come from a domestic product.

Reports to the State Department from

Switzerland indicate a spread in that country of the foot and mouth disease in cattle, and American importers are cautioned. The condition has become so alarming that the Swiss Government has placed a strict quarantine against the importation of live stock from France and Italy. The report states that Switzerland affords a good opening for American exportations of both live stock and dressed meats, especially the latter. There is no reason why properly directed efforts should not result in a lively and profitable demand for all American dressed meats. It would be necessary to place them on the Swiss markets on cold storage through the ports of Hamburg, Bremen, Havre and Antwerp. When American dressed meats have reached the Swiss markets in prime condition there has been a popular demand for them with quick sales at good prices. Leading butchers of Switzerland express the opinion that if either American live stock or dressed meats could be had in as good condition and at equal prices with Swiss products, they would command a ready sale and give good satisfaction.

Reports also indicate that the French Government is considering the placing of an additional duty on cotton seed oil, which is claimed, competes ruinously with the olive and other oils manufactured in France.

The Department of Agriculture is an important factor in the good roads movement now in progress. There is no doubt as to the great benefit that would accrue to farming communities through a prompt and vigorous co-operation, resulting in some practical highway improvement. The Department has a larger corps of correspondents who are directly interested in obtaining improved roads than any other branch of the government, and the information they are furnishing will, when collated, be likely to indicate the best course to be pursued in the direction of road improvement.

The national Department of Agriculture issues three classes of publications; first, technical publications; second, scientific and technical reports and third, farm bulletins. Of these the last named are the most interesting to farmers. They treat in a simple and practical manner of matters relating to the farm in every day work and are issued for general circulation wherever desired by farmers. They are sent free of charge to those applying. Requests should be addressed to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., stating both number and title if possible of bulletin desired. Among the January bulletins of general interest are No. 68, and 22 pages on the Black Rot of the cabbage; No. 65, with 32 pages on the following subjects: "Common Crops for Forage, Stock Melons, Starch in Potatoes, Crispin Clover, Geese for Profit, Cross Pollination, A Germ Fertilizer, Lime as a Fertilizer, Are Ashes Economical? and Mixing Fertilizers." Bulletin No. 67 contains forty-eight pages and is entitled "Forestry for Farmers." It tells how to plant a forest, how trees grow, how to care for a grove or a second growth forest, the relations of forests to farms, etc. The forestry question as affecting the American farmer is by no means unimportant. Our forest area is being constantly diminished and this undoubtedly tends to seriously affect climatic conditions.

W. M. King, of the Department, for years an agricultural editor and writer, has been investigating the plan for applying whitewash in the spring to peach, apricot, cherry, plum and other fruit buds with a view to retarding their early blossoming, thus decreasing the probability of their getting caught by late frosts. He reports the best test of this method to have been made at the Missouri Experiment Station, at Columbia. The whitewash used was four parts of water, one part of skimmed milk, and enough freshly slacked lime to make as thick a wash as could be used with a spray nozzle on a force pump. The buds sprayed remained practically dormant until April, while unprotected buds swelled perceptibly during warm days late in February and early in March. Eighty per cent of the whitened buds passed the frost line safely while only twenty per cent of the unsprayed buds escaped frost killing. Whitened buds blossomed from three days to a week later than the unwhitened ones. On the scientific theory that white absorbs less heat than the unwhitened ones, the experiments were made with thermometers along this line. Thermometers were sprayed with whitewash during sunny days the dark colored thermometers registered from ten to twenty degrees higher than did those covered with the whitewash.

Considerable attention is being attracted toward the case before the Attorney General of the oleomargarine dealers accused of violating the internal revenue laws in selling butter substitutes without proper labels to enable the consumer to know what he is purchasing. It is to be hoped that Attorney General Griggs, in assuming the duties of his new office and taking up this case, will render a decision which will put a quietus upon this fraudulent traffic. It is a most profitable business, the imposing of hog butter upon people in the place of the genuine dairy product, and the very fact of its great profit encourages the manufacturers to prepare the inferior article in the most attractive manner as to package and print and label so that it becomes extremely difficult for the ordinary consumer to distinguish the counterfeit from the creamery article. It is to be hoped that the prosecution will proceed vigorously.

GUY E. MITCHELL.

It is fortunate that not all the smartest men go into farming. If they did, they would get hold of most of the land, and the rest of us would be the tenants.

Spring Catalogues.

An unfailing sign of the early coming of spring is the arrival of the spring catalogues and in spite of the blizzards and blustering weather of the past month, they have been coming thick and fast for the last few weeks. They show a large number of new varieties put upon the market this season, many of which seem to promise a decided advantage over the old favorites.

The catalogue which catches the eye first of all, perhaps because of its glorious coloring and generous size is that of PETER HENDERSON & Co. of New York. They have instituted the new custom of dealing with their patrons direct and Henderson's seeds may only be obtained by applying to them. Some of their novelties this season are the Early Spring cabbage, Metropolitan sweet corn, Rocket radish, Freedom tomato, Prosperity pea, the Bovee potato and others. Several new varieties are still without a name and the users of the Henderson seeds will have an opportunity to suggest appropriate names for them. Many suggestions of great value to the seed user are to be found in this catalogue in addition to the regular matter.

A catalogue in which New Englanders are always especially interested is that of W. W. Rawson & Co., for they well know the quality and reliability of the "Arlington tested seeds." The seed business of W. W. Rawson & Co. has grown as vigorously and healthily as their own seeds and within the past year, they have been obliged to find a new location in order to obtain sufficient room for the increased demands upon them. Their handsome new store was shown in our last issue and is conveniently located near Faneuil Hall and both oil and new patrons will find there a cordial welcome and fair and courteous treatment. The spring catalogue includes a map showing the new location, and the most direct ways to it from the various railroad stations. The new store, while close to the marketing centre, is just out of the bustle and rush of the market itself, and is thus easy of access, the retail department on the ground floor being an especially good feature. Some of the Rawson specialties shown in this catalogue are the Horticultural Wax Bean, an early Wax Bean, enormously productive, the Crosby Improved Egyptian Beet, the earliest beet grown, Rawson's Arlington Favorite Beet, Rawson's Stone Man Cabbage, the best keeper for fall and winter use, White Spine Cucumber, Hot House Lettuce, Danvers Yellow Globe Onion, Rawson's Clipper Pea, the earliest in the market for eight years, Arlington Long Smooth Parsnip, especially adapted for New England soil, Scarlet Cornish Radish, Arlington Summer Crockneck Squash and the Puritan Tomato. Cash discounts are given for orders of any size. Remember the location of the new store, 12 and 13 Faneuil Hall Sq.

The general catalogue of ELLWANGER and BARRY OF ROCHESTER, N. Y., is the most valuable catalogue of its kind published, containing, as it does, accurate and reliable descriptions of the largest and choicest collection of all kinds of trees, shrubbery, evergreens, roses, etc., besides ample cultural directions, beautifully illustrated. They issue this year a supplementary catalogue of novelties and specialties. Among them are the new winter pear, the Dorset, an illustration of which is given, the Abundance, Burbank and Dunlap plums, the Columbus Gooseberry, also illustrated, and worthy of a place in every garden, the Logan berry, a new strawberry, McKinley Numbo, Paragon and Ridgely chestnuts, a large variety of ornamental trees and evergreens, besides all the new roses. The Anjou Pear is especially recommended in this catalogue. Both the general and supplementary catalogues will be supplied free to our readers, on application to the above address.

A seed firm well known to all our readers is that of D. M. FERRY & Co., of DETROIT, MICH. Their seed catalogue for 1898 shows a cheerful, flowery cover, and the contents are equally attractive. Some of the specialties they recommend are Jones' Stringless Wax Bean, White Sickle Pole Bean, the Mammoth Podded Horticultural Pole Bean, Mammoth White Cory Sweet Corn, Rose Ribbed Parsley Celery, Evans' Triumph Celery, the Gradus Pea, Half Long Black Winter Radish, Early Yellow Bush Scallop Squash, Golden Hubbard, Honor Bright Tomato and many others highly recommended. Their variety of flower seeds is bewildering, Pink Cupid, a new dwarf Sweet Pea, being especially recommended. All orders, accompanied by cash, will be promptly attended to, and the Ferry seeds will always be found reliable.

The issue of Vick's Garden and Floral Guide marks the forty-ninth year of the existence of the well-known seed house of JAMES VICK'S SONS, Rochester, N. Y. The catalogue itself is a very pretty publication, with a Golden Day Lily glorifying its cover, and a Daybreak Aster giving beauty to the back cover. Some of the specialties and novelties to be noted in this catalogue are Tuberous Begonias, Cactus Dahlias, Whirlwind Double Anemones, Silver Edged Flowering Maple, Aster Daybreak, the Mystery, several new varieties of Cannas and Chrysanthemums and Dahlias, besides several beautiful fuchsias, nasturtiums, geraniums and Vick's Giant Pansies. Flower lovers know they can be satisfied by application to James Vick's Sons and always turn to their catalogue for spring time suggestions. To be had on application.

Other catalogues received are from Edw. GILBERT, Southwick, Mass., hardy ferns and flowers; S. D. WOODRUFF AND SONS, Orange, Conn., home grown seeds; E. J. HILL, Oglethorpe, Fla., tenth annual strawberry catalogue; W. F. ALLEN, Jr., Salisbury, Md., strawberry catalogue; HARRY N. HAMMOND, Detroit, Mich., "largest grower of seed potatoes and farm seeds in the world," who has 5,000 acres under cultivation, 575 in seed potatoes alone; SUNSET SEED & PLANT CO., San Francisco, Cal., California seeds; S. L. WATKINS, Grizzly Flats, Cal.; and BURBANK'S EXPERIMENT FARMS, Santa Rosa, Cal., a supplement to New Creations in Fruits and Flowers.

White Wyandotte Eggs, 13 for \$1.25. Silver Wyandotte Eggs, 13 for \$2.00. Cat. Free. F. W. WELLS, 18 Wall St., Rochester, N. Y.

White Wyandotte Eggs, 13 for \$1.25. Silver Wyandotte Eggs, 13 for \$2.00. Cat. Free. F. W. WELLS, 18 Wall St., Rochester, N. Y.

JAPAN PLUMS, \$6 per 100.

Our new catalogue for '98 will tell you about the best varieties of these and other BUSINESS TREES. If you are thinking of planting fruit trees of any kind and want the BEST, it will interest and aid you. IT TELLS THE TRUTH about varieties, no misrepresentations, no catch phrases, but gives fair prices on an HONEST GRADE of HONEST TREES. You will be interested in our "GEO. COOPER." Apples, plums, pears and cherries, 4-6 ft. 2 yrs. old, and Japan plums 1 year, 3-5 ft. at \$6. An article on TREES BREEDING by George T. Powell of Ghent, N. Y., will make you think, and an article on QUINCE CULTURE will tell you how to grow quinces for profit. Write to-day. THE I. C. ROGERS NURSERY, DEPT. F, Danville, N. Y.

John Hancock Mutual Life Ins. Co. OF BOSTON, MASS.

Report of the Auditing Committee FOR 1898.

To the Policy Holders of the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co., of Boston, Mass.

The undersigned, a committee appointed at your last annual meeting to examine the annual statement of the Company, and to verify the same, respectfully

REPORT

that, pursuant to the power and authority thereby conferred, the committee have at various dates between the date of said reference and the date of this report attended at the office of the Company and have been waited on by the various officers, together with their assistants, and have carefully gone over all the items contained in said statement, and have found the same to be correct.

They have examined and counted every certificate of stock, bond and other obligations held by the Company, and compared the prices at which the same are carried in said statement with the market quotations, and find that a conservative estimate has been made, and with scarcely an exception, at below market value. They have examined the mortgages on real property held by the Company, and find the same to be as stated. They have also verified the valuations of the Company's holdings of real estate, the deposits of money in various banks and trust companies, and the cash on hand held by the cashier.

And the committee certify that all the books, papers, documents and evidences of title of every description necessary in such examination have been freely submitted to the committee by said officers and their assistants, and that the same are accurate, in good order, and well kept.

And the committee further certify that the system and methods adopted by the Company in recording its transactions and caring for the assets are entitled to commendation.

The result of our examination is set forth in the following statement:

ASSETS.	
Loans on Mortgages.....	\$1,927,290.41
Loans on Collateral.....	490,000
Loans on Company's Policies.....	347,250.00
Book Value of Real Estate.....	1,486,850.44
Book Value of Bonds and Stocks.....	5,775,345.17
Premium Notes on Policies in force Cash in Company's Office and in Banks.....	57,912.79
Loans on Personal Security and Printing Plant.....	417,544.47
Interest and Rents due and Accrued.....	3,281.68
Market Value of Bonds and Stocks over Book Value.....	128,181.11
Unclaimed and Deferred Premiums.....	73,631.28
Surplus.....	129,456.50
Total Assets.....	\$10,523,948.14
LIABILITIES.	
Death Claims and Endowments in Process of Adjustment.....	\$50,366.88
Premiums paid in Advance.....	3,631.07
Unpaid Dividends.....	20,292.76
Agents Cash Deposits and Reserve on Policies cancelled and entitled to a Cash surrender Value.....	81,187.59
Accrued Medical and Legal Fees, Bills, etc.....	78,742.17
Agents Balances, net.....	35,982.43
Net Premium Reserve, as computed by Mass. Insurance Department.....	9,194,875.10
Special Reserve for accumulating dividends and possible depreciation.....	159,000.00
Surplus.....	907,456.60
Total as above.....	\$10,523,948.14

Respectfully submitted,
OLIVER H. DURRELL,
CHARLES S. COOK,
JAMES H. DAVIS,
Auditing Committee.

Boston, Jan. 31, 1898.



DARLING'S

High Grade Fertilizers and Pure Fine Bone

Have been proved by progressive farmers to be of the highest nutritive value. They are rich in nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, derived from the best sources. These elements are combined in proportions adapted to the growth of corn, potatoes, root crops, grain, etc. DARLING'S Fertilizers are fine and dry. They will start the crops, and what is equally important, carry them through to maturity. Our 1898 catalogue treats the fertilizer question in a concise manner. We send it free.

L. B. DARLING FERTILIZER CO., PAWTUCKET, R. I.

Apple Orchard. Wanted a good place, with young trees preferred. Anyone having such to sell should consult J. A. WILLEY 178 DEVONSHIRE ST., BOSTON.

TO RENT. STOCK FARM in Wayland, Mass., 15 miles from Boston. Rent \$450. H. S. MILLTON, 10 Tremont St., Boston.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

[For the Mass. Ploughman.]

ELEANOR'S PUSSIES.

BY MARIE L. CLAPP.

The pussy willows, silvery and gray,
In a soft little heap on the barn floor lay,
While close beside them Eleanor sat
Struggling to hold a big gray cat.
"Oh, Tabby, do listen!" "Cause me and Bess
Want some pussies, and these are the eggs, I
guess."
I loved my frock climbing up in the tree,
And Bess is so tired as tired can be.
Now isn't on "hamed," with a little pout,
"That you didn't sit still and hatch 'em out?"

HOW TEDDY PROVED HIM-SELF A HERO.

"Washington's Birthday is coming soon. Can any of you tell me what day it is?" asked Miss Ray, the teacher. One hand went up.

"When is it, Johnny?"
"Fourth of July."

Twenty or more heads gave an eager, upward jerk at the thought of Fourth of July coming so soon, but dropped as Miss Ray said,—

"No, it comes on the twenty-second of this month. Now, how many of you know anything of Washington?"

A great many hands were raised, some large, some small, some clean, some grimy.

"You may speak, Tommy."

"Please'm, he had a hatchet, and he—"

"Yes," said Miss Ray, with a smile; "but we will not mind about the hatchet now, for we all know that story from your readers."

All hands went down except one.

"Tell me what you know, Johnny."

"He wrote the Declaration of Independence, and he fought in the war 'long side of General Sherman; and when the battle of Gettysburg was done, he was so ticked about it he rushed right up to the old liberty-bell, and rung it and rung it and rung it, till he cracked it right straight in two!"

"Stop, Johnny! You're a little mistaken!"

"Oh, but I know it's so, Miss Ray, for my uncle was down to Washington a while ago, and he saw that very bell, and the very crack in it. They were takin' it to the big show at New Orleans, and it was all trimmed up with flowers, and there was bands playin' and the people hurrahed and stomped round and thrown up their hats. I tell you!"

When he had seated himself, Miss Ray gave a little sketch of the life and work of Washington, so simple that the youngest child in her school knew that every child should know the Father of his Country.

Then it was settled that his birthday should be celebrated in a becoming manner in the town hall, and the children rushed out with shouts of delight.

"Three cheers for Washington!"

They were given with a will. Branches were dragged down from the trees, and with leafless banners waving, they marched to the sound of tin-pail drums.

Teddy Barnes joined heartily in the fun, and then walked up the steep path through the woods to his home on the mountain. He had never mingled much with other boys for until the last summer no school-house has been built far enough up the mountains for him to go. But a railroad had wound through the valley, and a little town had sprung up so fast that all the boys, and the grown folks, too, wanted to do whatever the rest of the world did.

"There's to be a celebration to the town hall on Washington's Birthday, grandmother. There's to be speakin' and singin' and things. I'm to be in it, if I can find a good piece."

"Dear-me! Teddy, I always knew you could do great things, if you only set to it."

"It's got to be something about the Father of his Country, you know?"

Grandmother took off her glasses and looked solemnly at him.

"Yes, yes, that means one of the Pilgrim Fathers, don't it. Now, Teddy, I know the very thing for you. 'The breaking waves dashed high,' you know."

Anything that grandmother said was law and gospel to Teddy, and he dutifully began learning the verses. But when his father came home, three days later, he shook his head.

"That won't do, Ted. It was more'n a hundred years after the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers when Washington fought for his country's freedom."

"I wouldn't mind that," said grandmother. "He was one of that sort, anyway. 'Freedom to worship God'—don't you see. What's the use of freedom, if it isn't for that?"

"Well, let's hear you say it," said his father.

Teddy could repeat it well to himself, but stumbled dismally when he had any listeners.

"What'll you do when there's a whole crowd?" asked his father.

Teddy did not know. The more he thought of it, the more he knew he could face all the fire and swords Washington ever saw, more easily than the eyes he must brave on that evening.

"There's no hero-stuff in him!" exclaimed his father, as Teddy broke down for the twentieth time.

Miss Ray was dismayed over Teddy's selection, but his heart was set upon it, for his grandmother's sake, and she let him go on. He failed, of course, in rehearsing to her, but she hoped and believed he would do better when the time came.

"Do your best now—don't be afraid," whispered Miss Ray as Teddy's piece was called.

But every word went out of his head as he stood on the stage, and turned towards that crowd in the town hall. He cast his eyes wildly to one side as if to try to escape.

"I told you so!" whispered father, and grandmother groaned.

Teddy again fixed his eyes on the audience, this time with an earnest look which led his friends to hope he was bracing himself for a fine effort. But again his eyes wandered, and he suddenly dashed out of sight behind the curtain. There was a slight crash, a rattle of breaking glass, and Mr. School Inspector Crane stepped hastily up after Teddy.

A little stir went through the crowd, and people were getting anxious, when the next piece was announced in a loud voice:—

"Crossing the Delaware."

This, then, was the end of Teddy's piece. Father was angry and said something about cowards, while grandmother cried.

The performance went on, finishing with "See the Conquering Hero Comes!" given as well as could have been expected.

"Stop a minute! Wait, I say!" came a voice, as the people were leaving their seats.

Mr. Crane had not been seen since Teddy had disappeared, for the stage was built against one of the entry doors, and he had gone out that way. He now burst into the room leading Teddy. Both of Teddy's hands were rolled up in cotton.

"There's been a deal of talk about heroes to-night," cried Mr. Crane, "and I think it's a good time to show you one. None of you know that if it had not been for this bit of a chap, we might all have been—"

"He stopped and lowered his voice—"the merciful Lord only knows where!"

He laid a strong, kindly grasp on Teddy's arm as he went on, growing more excited with every word.

"Yes, folks, that's just so. When he went up to speak his piece he saw what none of the rest of us saw, a smouldering fire off in yon corner—a candle fallen into a little heap of trimmings and scraps. Did he sing out and give the alarm so't women and children might be trod under foot, or jump out of these second-story windows on to that solid ice down there? No, he didn't! Your real hero always keeps his wits about him. He jumped on to the fire, and jammed it up in his hands, and smashed it through the window. Yes, his hands are burned and cut, too, but I'd be proud of any boy of mine that could carry such scars as he will! Now, folks, three cheers for George Washington—hip! hip!"

"Hurrah! hurrah! hurrah! hurrah!"

"Three cheers for Teddy Barnes!"

And to the end of her life grandmother always assures people that the cheers for Teddy were as loud as those for the Father of his Country.

"You'd have said your piece like a man if it hadn't been for the fire, wouldn't you, Teddy?" she asked, as they went home.

"I don't know, gran'mother," he said, glad it could never now be known whether he would have said a word of it or not.

"What's a hero, any way?" asked Johnny Crane of his father. "Washington was a hero, and now everybody says Teddy Barnes is a hero, and they don't look a speck alike."

"A hero? Well, now,—Mr. School Inspector Crane felt a great deal more than he was able to say on that subject."

"A hero? Why, I fancy it's a fellow, boy or man, that's bright enough to see when a thing ought to be done, and then does it."—Sydney Dayre in Youth's Companion.

Honoring the Flag.

When the American flag is flying in the playgrounds of a certain private school for boys, one notices that all the lads who approach it take off their hats. This pretty custom, that sends a thrill of silent applause through passersby, grew out of the following incident:

During a general frolic one day a young and heedless student threw a stone through the waving stars and stripes. His companions started an outburst of approving laughter, which was suddenly hushed by the grave aspect of the approaching principal. Pointing toward the ugly rent, in an awe-stricken voice he asked, "Who has dishonored his country?"

The culprit hung his head. "I am willing to pay for the damage," he began hurriedly, when he was interrupted with, "What price could repay an insult to the American flag?"

"It's just an old piece of bunting," the boy insisted.

The stern gravity of the old principal's face increased. "An old piece of bunting when it is of red, white, and blue, star-spangled," said he reverently, "becomes the spirit of American institutions. To insult that 'old bunting' is to insult your country. Where there is no love of country there is not a good citizen."

As the principal spoke he moved nearer the flagstaff. "Hats off!" he ordered. Simultaneously every head was uncovered. "And now on your honor as good American citizens, let no one of this company ever again approach that banner except in love and reverence."—New York Times.

Trees With Winter Leaves.

Those trees and shrubs which retain their withered leaves through the winter, shrub oaks, and young, white, red, and black oaks, the lower branches of larger trees, of the last-mentioned species, horn-beams, young hickories, etc., seem to form an intermediate class between deciduous and evergreen trees. They may almost be called the ever-reds. Their leaves, which are falling all winter long, serve as a shelter to rabbits and partridges, and other winter birds and quadrupeds. Even the chickadees love to skulk amid them, and peep out from behind them.—Thoreau.

If you are sick and despairing, go forth in winter and see the red alder catkins dangling at the extremity of the twigs all in the wintry air, like long, hard mulberries, promising a new spring and the fulfillment of all our hopes. We prize any tenderness, any softening in the winter, catkins, birds' nests, insect life, etc. The most I get, perchance, is the sight of a mulberry-like red catkin, which I know has a dormant life in it seemingly greater than my own.—Thoreau; Winter.

Of all the whole sum of human life no small part is that which consists of a man's relation to his country, and his feelings concerning it.—Gladstone.

We should never make enemies; if for no other reason because it is so hard to behave toward them as we ought.—Palmer.

THE HOME CORNER.

FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangement with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERNS CO., we are able to supply our readers with the *Best Glove-Fitting Pattern* at a very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have been invariably pleased with them in the past. The coupon below must accompany each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN COUPON.

Cut this out, fill in your name, address, number and size of pattern desired, and mail it to THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN, BOSTON, MASS.

Name.....

Address.....

No. of Pattern.....

Size.....

Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.

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Various sanitariums and private hospitals are using the "salt rub," and it is becoming so popular that some Turkish bath establishments are advertising it as a special attraction, says Trained Motherhood.

It is just as good for well people as for sick ones, is the most refreshing of all the baths and rubs ever invented, only excepting a dip in the sea itself, and is matches in its effects upon the skin and complexion. With all these virtues, it is the simplest, most easily managed of all similar measures, and can be taken at home easily, and is just the thing for the older children, as it is very strengthening.

Put a few pounds of coarse salt—the coarsest you can get, sea-salt by preference—in an earthen jar and pour enough water on it to produce a sort of slush, but not enough to dissolve the salt. This should be taken up in handfuls and rubbed over the entire person.

Of course, it is better to have it rubbed on by another person, but anyone in ordinary health can do it for herself or himself very satisfactorily. This being done, the next thing is a thorough douching of clear water, preferably cold, and a brisk rubbing with a dry towel.

The effect of elation, freshness and renewed life is felt almost immediately, and the satiny texture of the skin and increased clearness and brightness of the complexion swell the testimony in favor of the salt rub.

For young children it is best to drain off the salt and add two tablespoonfuls of pure bay rum to a basin full of this salt water. Apply with a soft flannel and dry with a soft Turkish towel. Care should be taken that there is not too much salt in the water, as it may irritate the tender skins of some children.

The need of a simple method of keeping household accounts, says the editor of the Home Club in the Outlook, "is felt by every housekeeper who is methodical and finds system a relief. It would result, doubtless, in the making of a perfect account-book for housekeepers if a practical blank-book maker could see one hundred account-books of as many housekeepers, who, because no book is satisfactory to them, have evolved each, a book to meet her individual needs. A book that has been accepted by several housekeepers is very simple. A good-sized blank-book with bound, is bound in, with ruled pages—over one hundred. The left-hand page is ruled first. The first vertical line in ink is drawn about two inches from the edge of the leaf. The lines about the distance apart of the horizontal lines or rulings are drawn on this and the right-hand to about a corresponding distance from the edge of the left-hand page. At the top on the margin, write: 'Butcher,' 'Grocer,' 'Wages,' 'Rent,' 'Clothes,' 'Books,' 'Charities,' 'Church,' 'Club,' 'Carfare,' and every regular account that goes to make the sum total of expenses. In the space at left-hand write day and date, in space at right hand the total amount spent each day. At the seventh line, across the page, leave space to write the total of expense for the week, or, if monthly accounts are kept, the space at the bottom of the page will hold the total of each column. Every other page, or the first blank page turned, will hold the monthly statement of amount received, expended, and the balance. Miss Conroy, of Pratt Institute, is devising a household account book which doubtless will be peculiarly well adapted to this particular field of vexed and vexing financial problems."

The recipes for these four steamed puddings from Table Talk will be found excellent.

Fig Pudding.—One-half of a pound of figs, one-quarter of a pound of stale bread crumbled fine, three tablespoonfuls of sugar, three tablespoonfuls of butter, two eggs, three-quarters of a cupful of milk. Chop the figs fine, add the bread crumbs, sugar, beaten eggs, milk and butter, melted. Turn into a well-greased mould, cover and steam for three hours. Serve with liquid sauce.

Eggless Fruit Pudding.—One heaping cupful of bread crumbs, two cupfuls of flour, one cupful of finely chopped suet, one cupful of seeded raisins, one cupful of molasses, one cupful of sweet milk, one-half of a teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water, one-half of a teaspoonful of cloves, one tea-

spoonful of cinnamon. Steam for four hours and serve with hard or soft sauce.

Prune Pudding.—Pick over and wash one pound of prunes, cover with fresh cold water and let soak over night. Cook slowly in a double boiler until tender; when cool take out the pits. Make a batter with one and one-half cupfuls of milk, three well-beaten eggs, one-quarter of a teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of sugar and sufficient sifted flour to make a thick drop batter. Beat for a moment, add the prunes and two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and steam in a well-greased mold for two hours and a half. Strain the prune juice, add sufficient water to make one pint. When boiling add one heaping teaspoonful of cornstarch dissolved in a little cold water. Stir until thick and smooth, add one-half of a cupful of sugar and cook slowly for ten minutes. Take from the fire and stir in one teaspoonful of butter.

Snow Balls.—Cream one-half of a cupful of butter, and one cupful of sugar and cream again. Add alternately one-half of a cupful of milk and two heaping cupfuls of flour. Add three teaspoonfuls of baking powder, stir in lightly the stiffly beaten whites of four eggs, turn into buttered cups and steam for half an hour. Serve with strawberry sauce.

Rye Short Cake Toast.—Mix one cup flour, one cup rye flour, half a teaspoon salt, one tablespoon sugar and two level teaspoonfuls baking powder. Add one tablespoon melted butter and milk enough,—about one cup—to make a dough that can be kneaded and rolled. Mould it smooth, roll out quite thin, cut into rounds and bake quickly. While they are baking make one cup of white sauce with one cup hot cream or milk, one level tablespoon each butter and corn starch and one-quarter teaspoon salt. When the cakes are done split them open and lay on a dish with the hot cream over them and serve very hot.—American Kitchen.

Delicious Corn Coffee.—Shell well matured ears of yellow corn, wash, fill a large kettle full and steam or boil for two hours in as little water as possible, drain in a colander, then put it in large dripping pans and dry in a slow oven, stirring it occasionally; when dry put it away in a bag until it is desired for use, then put one or two pounds in a pan and brown in the oven, stirring it every two minutes until it is the color of browned coffee. Be very careful not to burn any, as one or two grains which are burned will spoil the entire lot. After it is cool put away in tin or glass vessels. Grind as you use it. Take a heaping tablespoonful of the ground corn for each cup of cold water used. Let it come to a boil for a minute, set it where it will keep hot and steep for fifteen minutes. Serve with good rich cream.—American Kitchen.

Disparage and depreciate no one; an insect has feeling and an atom a shadow.—Coleridge.

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OUR HOMES.

WASHINGTON.

In the upright little sapling lives the mighty mountain pine, straight as an Indian chieftain with its long, unswerving line, lifting high its sturdy branches, rooted in its rocky bed, landmarks to the valleys under, shelter for the weary head.

In the low so true and fearless lived our hero and grand, through the days of stormy trouble shelter to his native land.

For the uncut twig, believe me, ever grows as it began.

And the child of noble nature makes the noble-hearted man.

—Youth's Companion.

"CHINK."

A way back in the '60's, during the infancy of the cattle interests of Kansas, an out and out New England boy came to the State, looking for a suitable location to engage in the new industry.

Finding a small ranch for sale on the Little Blue, Chink Morgan invested his money and settled himself in business.

Erastus Cummings, his nearest neighbor and whose ranch lay eight miles below, was a pioneer in the business, and it was not to be wondered at that Chink cultivated his acquaintance, for the Yankee boy was determined to succeed, and was not above obtaining all the information relating to the breeding and raising of cattle, that could be had.

As time passed and the years had added to their number by three, the prospering young ranchman found it more convenient than ever to drop in at Cummings', for a daughter that had been attending school at home and proved an excellent hostess.

The friendship that sprang up between these young people grew serious at once, so far as Chink was concerned, and at the end of twelve months, encouraged by the fair Martha, the young man broached the subject of marriage to her father. Imagine his disgust, when the esteemed Erastus replied: "No, sir! I don't give one-half of fifty-two hundred cattle and their calf-increase, for an even three hundred; not very much. You must remember young man," he continued, "that Martha and the boy are all the family I have, and that some day they will share equally in my land and herds. Under these conditions I cannot consider your proposition. You must manage to make a better showing before again aspiring to the hand of my daughter."

The short conversation taught Chink that his wooing was in vain, and at the first opportunity he spoke to Martha concerning the subject, saying: "I sometimes think, Martha, that it will be necessary to poison all but six hundred head of your father's cattle or make up my mind to live and die a bachelor."

"What a foolish fellow," answered Martha. "Are you not certain of having a large herd in time, if you are as fortunate in the future as you have been during the four years since you came to the State? I never want to hear you speak in that manner again."

"You are unusually bright, Martha," returned Chink, "but how can you or any one else solve a problem such as this? For myself, I see no way of making a herd of three hundred cattle increase as rapidly as a herd of fifty-two hundred. If you are able to enlighten me, be kind enough to produce your figures."

"You ask too much," answered Martha. "You should not look at the subject in so serious a manner, but remember that I love you just as well as though you owned ten times your number of cattle, and am willing to wait until you have bettered your condition. And besides, father may change his mind after a time, especially if he learns that we are not to be discouraged by his methods of delay."

"I dare say that you are correct in your view," Martha replied Chink, "but it seems like asking a man to purchase his wife, and that is a form of speculation I care very little for, especially at present. I might consider a proposition to purchase a limited number of cattle, providing they were acclimated; or even a saddle pony, but as to buying a wife! The very thought leaves a bad taste in my mouth."

"Your symptoms grow alarming," answered Martha with a laugh, "speaking from your appearance, I should not class you with skeptics, or think of you as a sufferer from any of those disorders that derange the stomach or coat the tongue." And the girl smiled as she gazed at the manly form of her lover.

Chink detected a look of deep interest in his sweetheart's eyes, and realized that she was far more hopeful of the future than himself. Taking both her hands in his strong, brown ones, he solemnly kissed his betrothed and said: "You're a brave girl, Martha. I am proud of you as a sweetheart, and shall profit by your words. You have bravely said that we could wait, and that must suffice. So good-bye."

During the early winter a destructive prairie fire swept over that portion of Kansas, burning everything in its path that was not well protected by fireguards. The winter range was wholly destroyed together with many stacks of hay. To the majority of ranchmen the loss was disastrous, but not so with Chink, who, though greatly inconvenienced by the loss of his range, was fortunate in saving his precious stacks of hay. Being a prudent man from inheritance and from the early schooling received upon a sterile Vermont farm, the young Yankee had a fine lot of forage and it was well stacked in a sheltered bend of the river not far below his corral. Extra precaution had been adopted to prevent loss from sudden and unexpected fires, by burning wide fireguards around the hay-yard and around the house and sheds. When the fire was discovered away off to the southwest, Chink dispatched one of his men with orders to drive in the herd of cattle feeding peacefully on the opposite side of the river, and directly in the line of that rolling, seething mass of flame.

With the other he hastened to the last row of fireguards and began back-firing. Though the progress made at first was slow, every rod gained meant that much protection, and when the head fire came rolling up the lines had burned nearly a hundred rods from the river.

Like a writhing monster, the cloud of flame and smoke burst upon the feebly burning lines of back fire, carrying them far into the air and up over the strip of freshly burned sward in a frantic effort to carry on its work of destruction. But the fire guards had performed their work so satisfactorily that the great mass of flaming billows separated at each side of the ranch and passed swiftly on without harm to hay or buildings.

This bit of good luck on Chink's part, as Mr. Cummings insisted upon calling his neighbor's escape, enabled the young ranchman to winter his own herd in fine shape and made it possible to care for a fine bunch of cows belonging to a less fortunate neighbor, one-half of them becoming his property when green came the following spring. This addition to his herd and the season's increase swelled the number of cattle in Chink's herd to nearly six hundred head, and brought to mind the cheering words of his sweetheart.

On the other hand Mr. Cummings was not so "lucky" as he was pleased to term it, for he neglected burning fireguards about his hay yards and could only stand idly by and see them go up in smoke. As if that were not sufficient misfortune, his cattle which he had purchased from Cummings, died badly and many were never recovered, while a great number of the weaker ones died during that trying period known to ranchmen as the time "between hay and grass."

As the building up of a herd was a comparatively easy task in those days, when the owner possessed the means and had a reasonable "run of luck," so the destruction of a fine bunch was equally certain when fire and starvation each had an inning.

At the next annual round-up, it was quickly learned that Chink Morgan had more than half the number of cattle possessed by his neighbor Cummings, and this information led to a second business trip to the ranch located eight miles farther down the river.

When approached by Chink with a request for the hand of Martha in marriage, Mr. Cummings admitted the folly of his former answer, and to do the "square thing," made his future son-in-law an equal partner in his ranch and cattle, declaring that the Yankee boy had taught him the greatest lesson of his life.—The Western Horseman.

COURAGE.

It is not they that never knew
Weakness or fear, who are the brave:
Those are the proud, the knightly few
Whose joy is still to serve and save.

But they who, in the weary night,
Amid the darkness and the stress,
Have struggled with disease and blight,
With pitiful world-weariness:

They who have yearned to stand among
The free and mighty of the earth,
Whose sad, aspiring souls are wrung
With starless hope and hollow mirth—

Who die with every day, yet live
Through misdeeds, unrighted wrongs,
Who sweat with pain and sorrow
And smile divinely through their tears:

They are the noble, they the strong,
They are the tried, the trusted ones—
And though their life is hard and long—
Straight to the shining God it runs.

—Harper's Weekly.

WASHINGTON'S LEAP.

In 1775 there lived in a Virginia town a rich and eccentric old farmer whose daughter was the loveliest maiden in all the locality. The beautiful Annette was eighteen years of age and had many suitors for her hand and heart. On her nineteenth birthday the old man invited all the youth of the village to a grand hay-making frolic.

"Now, my lady," said the old man, after the banquet was some time over, "I've got something to say to you. It seems that a good many of you have been casting sheep's eyes on my Annette. Now, boys, I don't care any more about money or talents, book learning or soldier learning. I can do as well by my girl as any man in the country, but I want her to marry a man of my own grit. I got my old woman by beating the smartest man on the Eastern shore. Now, listen, I've taken an oath that no man shall marry my daughter without jumping for it. There you are, boys; yonder's the green, and the one who jumps farthest on a dead level shall marry her this very evening."

This peculiar address was received with great applause, and more than one youth, as he bounded away for the arena of trial, cast a glance of anticipated victory upon the lovely prize as she stood blushing beside her father.

Soon all was in readiness. The signal was given, and the young competitors stripped off their coats.

"Edward Grayson, seventeen feet!" cried one of the judges. The youth had done his utmost, but it was clear that he had little hope.

"Dick Boulden, nineteen feet!" Dick, with a little laugh of satisfaction, replaced his coat and joined the onlookers.

"Harry Preston, nineteen feet three inches!"

"Well done, Harry!" shouted the spectators. "You tried hard for the acres and the homestead."

"Charlie Simms, fifteen and one-half feet!"

He turned away crestfallen. It was clear he had no chance to win the fair prize. Then came Henry Carroll—handsome, athletic and confident. He cast a swift glance at his sweetheart and at the villagers, and then, with a gleam of triumph in his eye, he bounded forward.

"Twenty-one feet and a half. A magnificent leap!" cried the judge. "Ho-ray for Harry Carroll!"

Hands, hats and handkerchiefs were waved wildly by the delighted villagers, and the cry of the happy Annette sparkled with joy.

Now, just before Harry had leaped a stranger had entered the throng unperceived. He was a tall, gentlemanly young man in a military uniform, with a sword at his side.

The man's handsome, free and easy address at once attracted the eyes of the maidens, while his manly and stately

frame, in which were happily united symmetry and strength, called forth the admiration of the young men.

"Mayhap, sir, stranger, you think you can beat that," said Charlie Simms, remarking the manner in which the newcomer scanned the arena. "If you can outstep Harry Carroll, you beat the best man in the colonies."

"Is it for amusement you are pursuing this pastime?" inquired the youthful stranger, "or is there a prize for the winner?"

"The sweetest prize man ever strove for," answered the judges. "Yonder she stands."

The stranger cast a respectful glance at the blushing maiden, and his eyes looked admiringly.

"Are the lists open to all?" he asked.

"All, young sir," replied Annette's father with interest. "If you will try, you are free to do so. Here is my daughter, sir; look at her and decide."

With a smile the newcomer threw off his coat, drew his sword tighter around his waist and stepped forward. All hearts stood still as the young man bounded forward.

"Twenty-two feet and an inch!" The judge's words were received with a murmur of surprise and wonder. No one without a feeling of pity for poor Harry, all crowded round the new victor, offering him their congratulations. Resuming his coat, the stranger sought with his eye the fair prize he had, although nameless and unknown, so fairly won. He leaned upon her father's arm, pale and distressed.

Poor Harry Carroll stood aloof, admiring the stranger for his ability, but hating him for his success.

"Annette, my pretty prize," said the victor, taking her passive hand, "I have won you fairly, but I think there is a favored youth among the competitors who has a higher claim than mine. Young sir," he continued, turning to the surprised Harry, "methinks you were the victor in the lists before me; and as such, with the permission of this worthy assembly, you receive from my hand the prize you have so well and honorably won."

The youth sprang forward and grasped the stranger's hand with gratitude, and the next moment Annette was weeping from pure joy upon his breast. The place rang with the exclamations of the delighted people, and amid the excitement the new-come withdrew, remounting his horse, and rode briskly out of the village.

That night Harry and Annette were married. Several years later Harry Carroll became Colonel Harry Carroll. One evening the colonel was sitting on the piazza of his handsome country house, when a courier rode up and announced the approach of General Washington and suit, who would crave the colonel's hospitality for the night.

That evening at the table Annette, now the dignified, matronly and still handsome Mrs. Carroll, could not keep her eyes from the face of her illustrious visitor. "I suspect, colonel," said the general, "that Mrs. Carroll thinks she recognizes in me an old acquaintance, but I have become, by dint of camp fire and hard usage, too unwieldy to leap again twenty-two feet one inch, even for so fair a bride as one I wed of."

George Washington was indeed the handsome young athlete whose mysterious appearance and disappearance in the native village of the lovers is still traditionally.—S. leclerc.

A MIDWINTER THAW.

How shrink the snows upon this upland field;
Under the dove-gray dome of brooding night;
They shrink with soft, reluctant shocks, and soon
In sad and crown ranks the furrows lie revealed.
From radiant clisters of the frost unveiled
Now washes through all the air a watery rune—
The bubble of a million brooks atone,
In fairy conduits of blue ice concealed.
Noddy with crows, the wind-break on the hill
Wakes the old farmer's memory of a time
Some foreteller prophesied with skill
Some voyaging ghost of bird, some effluence
And the still-wet earth shall dream their fill
Of deep June pastures where the pools are fair.

—Charles G. D. Roberts.

A Story of Washington.

While encamped at White Plains, the army's supplies became exhausted. The commissary had given out the last ration; and under protest Washington was obliged to permit his soldiers to forage the country. The helpless women and children, for the fathers and brothers were in the army, were constantly harassed by scouting parties who seized everything they could find, even driving off the cows, on which the poor people, especially the young children, depended for subsistence. At length they could stand it no longer, and a delegation of the wives and mothers determined to see Washington himself and lay their case before him.

So one fine morning they started for White Plains, two hundred strong, a veritable "mother in Israel" at their head. Arriving at head quarters, they were observed by Washington, who very likely conjectured their errand, and who at once sent his servant to inquire what they wished. They all with one voice replied—

"We want General Washington." Washington immediately invited the old lady to approach, he seated and made known the grievance, which she proceeded to do, relating the distress of families who were deprived of food for their little ones and daily necessities by the ruthless soldiers.

Upon hearing her story Washington promised that their wrongs should be redressed, and invited the delegation into his quarters. He then had a long table set in the hall and loaded with the best camp afforded, and so in the "fair dames" were partaking of his hospitality. The general, who was seated at the head, invited them to drink his health, which they did, their toast being "May everyone in power have the justice and humanity of General Washington." It is added that "two hours before sunset they were on their way home, following their recovered property." Soon after the battle of Trenton occurred.

Twelve years passed, the epoch-making years so dear to us all. Washington is on his way to take his place

With a sharp stick

you can turn up the dirt and get ground ready for planting—but what a clumsy, slow, laborious, ineffective way of going to work! Not much more so, though, than the old-fashioned way of washing. Think of it! Grinding the clothes up and down on a wash-board, with nothing but soap and main strength to get out the dirt. Then think how simple and easy is Pearline's way—soaking, boiling, rinsing. You need Pearline for all your washing and cleaning. You need something better than soap or a sharp stick when you're dealing with dirt.

Millions use Pearline

as President of the young nation. As he drew near to Trenton Bridge the well-known and interesting ceremonies at that place occurred. It will be remembered that the ladies designed the whole, and thus they sought to reward an unforgotten kindness. The triumphal arch that spanned the bridge was covered with foliage and flowers intertwined with laurel, and in the centre, in letters of gold, the since oft-quoted motto, "The defender of the mothers will be the protector of the daughters."

We may be sure that not one of the "hundred delegates" who could get them missing in the group of comely matrons, and the rosy daughters who were then children had not forgotten the story. Washington, seeing the array of ladies, gallantly dismounted and with head uncovered approached the arch. At this the little girls, of whom we are told there were several hundred dressed in white carrying baskets of flowers, began to sing an ode written for the occasion, and at the last line, "Strew your hero's way with flowers," they scattered the fragrant blossoms in his path. As he passed under the arch a beautiful girl, perched in the foliage and nearly hidden from view, placed on his head a wreath of laurel. Washington was overcome by these demonstrations, and the hero of many battles was seen to shed tears as he passed on in the flower-strewn path, at the end of which were other honors, than which none greater in the nation's gift.

Washington's Boyhood.

A boy who was much at Mount Vernon and at Mr. Fairfax's seat, Belvoir, might expect to see not a little that was worth seeing of the life of the colony. George was kept at school until he was sixteen; but there was ample recreation time for visiting. Mrs. Washington did not keep him at her apron strings. He even lived, when it was necessary, with his brother Augustine, at the old home on Bridges Creek, in order to be near the best school that was accessible while the mother was far away on the farm that lay upon the Rappahannock. Mrs. Washington saw to it, nevertheless, that she should not lose sight of him altogether. When he was fourteen it was proposed that he should be sent to sea, as so many lads were; but that from that many province; but the prudent mother preferred he should not leave Virginia, and the schooling went on as before—the schooling of books and many sports. Every lad learned to ride—to ride out or horse, regardless of training, gait, or temper—in that country, where no one went afoot except to catch his mount in the pasture. Every ad, black or white, bond or free, knew where to find and how to take the roving game in the forests. And young Washington, robust boy that he was, was not to be daunted while that strong spirit shone in him which he got from his father and mother alike, took his apprenticeship on horseback and in tangled woods with characteristic zest and ardor.

He was, above all things else, a capable executive boy. He loved mastery, and he relished acquiring the most effective means of mastery in all practical affairs. His very exercise books used at school gave proof of it. They were filled, not only with the rules, formulae, diagrams, and exercises of surveying, which he was taking special pains to learn, at the advice of his friends, but also with careful copies of legal and mercantile papers, bills of exchange, bills of sale, bonds, indentures, land warrants, leases, deeds, and wills, as if he meant to be a lawyer or merchant's clerk. It would seem that, passionate and full of warm blood as he was, he conned these things as he studied the use and structure of his fowling-piece, the bridle he used for his colts, his saddle-girth, and the best ways of mounting. He copied these forms of business as he might have copied Bevel's account of the way fox or "possum or beaver was to be taken, or wild turkey trapped. The men he most admired, his elder brothers, Mr. Fairfax, and the gentlemen planters who were so much at their houses, were most of them sound men of business, who valued good surveying as much as they valued good horsemanship and skill in sport. They were their own merchants, and looked upon forms of business paper as quite as useful as ploughs and hogsheads. Careful exercise in such matters might well enough accompany practice in the equally formidable survival of the fittest, civil service reform is a reaction. Its ideal has never been better stated than by Washington. In a letter declining to appoint a personal friend to office, Washington wrote: "My friend—is welcome to my house and welcome to my heart; but, with all his good qual-

ities, he is not a man of business. His opponent with all his politics so hostile to me, is a man of business. My private feelings have nothing to do with the case. I am not George Washington but President of the United States. As George Washington I would do this man any kindness in my power—as President of the United States I cannot do nothing." This is the ideal toward which civil service reformers are still pressing forward. For more than a generation it lost its hold upon the public life of the nation, but, like every cause whose defeat has been due to greed and not to conscience, it reviveth again when the forces that were against it seemed to have secured their complete triumph.—Outlook.

The Tomb of Washington.

The original resting-place of the father of his country, and the old family sepulchre, is south of the mansion, immediately on the bank of the Potomac, and is a place of great interest. It is over a hundred feet in length, and is a mere excavation in the earth, walled over in the rudest manner, and looking far more, at its entrance, like a hop-kiln or out-door cellar than a place of rest for the illustrious departed.

But this cemetery is now deserted and of course dilapidated. A new and more fitting mausoleum of brick was constructed in 1837, south of the garden and some two or three hundred yards southeast of the former, in which the remains of the Washington family are now deposited. It is built on ground sloping to the south, and the family cemetery is excavated in the hillside, and is entered by an iron door; but in front of this, under the neat and appropriate brick structure itself, separated from the outer world only by a strong iron railing, rest side by side, in two marble sarcophagi, the ashes of George and Martha Washington.

These marble enclosures are well executed, though simple, and I believe were presented by T. Struthers, a Philadelphia artist, as a token of affectionate reverence and admiration for the memory of the great departed. The inscription upon the top merely states the name, age, and time of the decease of each respectively, the death of Mrs. Washington having occurred in 1801, two years after that of her revered consort; and as her age is stated at seventy-one years, while he did not reach thirty-eight, she must have been nearly two years his senior.—Horace Greeley.

The immortal Washington could "mingle a rebuke with an apology" very skillfully as the following incident will show.

At dinner-parties, according to the story, Washington allowed five minutes for the variation of time pieces, and when, then tardy members of Congress appeared after the dinner was begun, his sarcastic apology was: "Gentlemen, we are too punctual for you!" or, "Gentlemen, I have a clock who never asks whether the company has come, but whether the hour has come!"

GEMS.

Posterity will talk of Washington with reverence as the founder of a great empire, when my name shall be lost in the vortex of revolution.—Napoleon Bonaparte.

No arch nor column, in courtly English or courtier Latin, sets forth the needs and the worth of the Father of his Country; he needs them not; the untried benightedness of millions cover all the walls. (Mt. Vernon.) No gilded dome swells from the lofty roof to catch the morning or evening beam; but the love and gratitude of united America settle upon it in one eternal sunshine.—Edward Everett.

The Republic may perish; the wide arch of our varied Union may fall; star by star its glories may expire; stone by stone its columns and its capitol may moulder and crumble; all other names which adorn its annals may be forgotten;—but as long as human hearts shall anywhere plead for a true, rational, and constitutional liberty, those hearts shall enshrine the memory, and those tongues prolong the fame of George Washington.—Robert C. Winthrop.

The riches of the Commonwealth are free, strong minds, and hearts of health; and more to be than gold or grain. The cunning hand and cultured brain.—Our State.

Let our object be our country, our whole country, and nothing but our whole country. And by the blessing of God, may that country itself become a vast and splendid monument, not of oppression and terror, but of wisdom, of peace, of liberty, upon which the world may gaze, with admiration, forever.—Daniel Webster.

Wanted in Dover, Mass.

Farm from 10 to 50 acres, with good buildings, suitable for fruit and poultry.

APPLY TO

J. A. WILLEY, 178 Devonshire St., Room 502, Boston, Mass.

FARMS FOR SALE.

WORCESTER CO. FRUIT FARM. near good markets, 70 acres in all; 9 acres set out in apple orchard, 2000 trees, mostly 10 to 15 years old, in fine condition; raspberries and blackberries returned \$10000 '96. Soil a nice black loam. Cuts 30 tons hay, large house, painted and blinded, wood shed, wagon house, pigsty and barn, 20 to 25 tons of straw, 25 tons of hay, and 25 tons of straw. Large elm front house 24 feet around it. Electric lights. Price \$30000, \$7000 down. Particulars apply to J. A. WILLEY, Acton, Mass., or at this office.

ALL STOCKED.—For sale, 145-acre river farm 1 1/2 miles from city of Boston, 40 from Boston. 10000 bushels of corn, 10000 bushels of wheat, 10000 bushels of oats, 10000 bushels of barley, 10000 bushels of rye, 10000 bushels of clover, 10000 bushels of timothy, 10000 bushels of alfalfa, 10000 bushels of lucerne, 10000 bushels of vetch, 10000 bushels of sainfoin, 10000 bushels of red clover, 10000 bushels of white clover, 10000 bushels of yellow clover, 10000 bushels of blue clover, 10000 bushels of purple clover, 10000 bushels of green clover, 10000 bushels of brown clover, 10000 bushels of black clover, 10000 bushels of grey clover, 10000 bushels of pink clover, 10000 bushels of red clover, 10000 bushels of white clover, 10000 bushels of yellow clover, 10000 bushels of blue clover, 10000 bushels of purple clover, 10000 bushels of green clover, 10000 bushels of brown clover, 10000 bushels of black clover, 10000 bushels of grey clover, 10000 bushels of pink clover, 10000 bushels of red 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clover, 10000 bushels of brown clover, 10000 bushels of black clover, 10000 bush



THE HORSE.

Breed Good Horses.

There is now, and likely will be for another half century, perhaps longer, as strong and widespread a demand for horses that are adapted to the various capacities for which they are used, in city and country, as there ever was and at prices that were never heard of in the experience of earlier breeders, but the call is for good horses only.

The question will be asked, by what means are good horses to be obtained? It may be stated in reply that the first requisite is to be looked for in the sire of the stock intended to be raised. He should have in his veins the greatest amount of pure blood, compatible with size, weight and power, according to the purpose; the blood-horse possesses these to a degree entirely out of proportion to the size or apparent strength of his frame, in the texture, form and symmetry of the bones; the elements of capacity for resistance and endurance are contained in the blood-horse many fold greater than those of similar character found in the common, cold-blooded cart horse.

The impression prevails with a class of breeders that the thoroughbred's principal use is upon the turf; that he is a race horse and without value, for any other purpose, but a casual study of the origin of the different breeds of magnificent draft, coach, road and saddle horses of the country, will disclose that this strongest factor of excellence and value is traceable to the proportion of thoroughbred blood used in laying the foundation of their ancestry, and the more of it that has been introduced in the beginning and resorted to in later generations, the better have been results.

It has been the practice of thoroughbred and skilled breeders, from the earliest times, to select suitable and good mares, sound, large and well formed, without much regard to their blood-lines and these were bred to the thoroughbred stallion, repeating the thorough infusion to the progeny for several generations and to such a course of breeding the present high standard of the different breeds of horses in this and other countries is largely indebted. Let the farmer then who keeps a few brood mares select the most desirable sire for his colts within reach, giving preference, other things being equal, to the preponderance of thoroughbred blood demonstrated in his pedigree.

To breed a fairly average good mare to a small horse with the hope of getting a large colt; from a leggy, long-backed horse expecting the result of the mating to be one of short, compact and powerful build, or sound progeny from a broken-winded, blind, spavined or otherwise diseased sire would be a folly that no well regulated or prudent breeder would attempt, in these days of enlightenment and progress.

An eminent authority on this subject has said that the "blood" should always be on the sire's side and having inherited size, constitutional vigor, temper and other things that go towards desirability, leaving beauty of form, a roomy frame, long sloping hips, a wide chest and a generally perfect model, to the mare.

The horse for the farm breeder's purpose should be of medium height, say 15 1/2-16 hands, short, back well ribbed up, short in the saddle place, long below. He should have high withers, broad loins, broad chest, straight rump, a high muscular, but not beefy chest; a lean, bony, well set head, clear, bright, well placed eyes, well apart, broad nostrils and small ears. His forelegs long, well muscled above the knees, also, his hind legs above the hocks, lean, short and bony below these joints. The bones cannot well be too flat, or too large, and the sinews ought to be straight, firm and hard to the touch.

From such a horse, if the breeder can find him, and from a well-chosen mare, she may be slightly larger, more bony, more roomy, and in every way, coarser than the horse, to the advantage of the progeny, sound, healthy and vigorous, the chances of getting a colt that prove a success to his skill as a breeder not only, but one of profit to him in a pecuniary sense, as well, will be reduced to the minimum.—Indiana Farmer.

Now is a good time to trim trees if it has not been done before. Fruit trees should be scraped at the same time as far up as the tool will reach.

Treat your horse well and he will treat you well. Give him a bed of German Peat Moss. C. B. Barrett, 45 Market-street, Boston, Mass.

Boston Cooking School.

All ingredients mentioned in the following recipes are measured level.

The lesson given at the Cooking School Wednesday morning, Feb. 23, included the preparation of dishes suitable to serve at a ladies' luncheon, and Clam Broth, Crabs a la Richmond, Sweetbread Cutlets, Creamed Mushrooms in Timbale Cases, Salad Chiffonade and Pineapple Mousse were prepared before the audience. Miss Farmer suggested that it was better not to make preparations for entertaining guests directly after a holiday, as it was difficult to procure fresh supplies from the market. She also recommended serving the food in individual portions for a ladies' luncheon.

CLAM BROTH.—Wash carefully one-half peck clams and put in a kettle with one cupful of cold water. Cover and steam until the shells are well opened. Strain the liquor through a double thickness of cheese cloth, season with pepper and serve at once in bouillon cups, garnishing each with a spoonful of whipped cream.

The combination of the cream and broth was delicious.

Clam broth is especially valuable for use in illness and can be taken when but little else can be given.

CRABS A LA RICHMOND. Melt two tablespoonfuls butter, and add two tablespoonfuls flour; add one-third cupful milk and one-third cupful clam broth. Cook one cupful crab meat in one teaspoonful butter and two tablespoonfuls sherry wine two minutes, and add to the sauce with the soft part of eighteen steamed clams and the yolk of one egg diluted with a little cream. Season with salt and cayenne; add one tablespoonful brandy, and serve on circle of toast surrounded with

The meat of a dozen hard shelled crabs will generally give a cupful. Either shrimp or lobster can be prepared in the same way.

SWEETBREAD CUTLETS. Parboil one large sweetbread, broken in pieces, in two tablespoonfuls butter five minutes; add one and one-half tablespoonfuls flour and two-thirds cupful cream. Moisten with a thick cream sauce made with three tablespoonfuls butter, one-third cupful flour and one cupful milk. Season highly with salt, pepper and cayenne. Cool, shape in cutlet forms, inserting a piece of macaroni in the end of each to simulate the bone of a cutlet, crumb and fry.

Quarter of a cupful of cornstarch may be used in place of the one-third cupful of flour.

CREAMED MUSHROOMS. Cook one-half pound mushrooms, broken in pieces, in two tablespoonfuls butter five minutes; add one and one-half tablespoonfuls flour and two-thirds cupful cream. When boiling add one-half tablespoonful wine. Season with salt, pepper and cayenne, and serve in timbale cases.

TIMBALE CASES. Mix two-thirds cupful flour, one-half teaspoonful salt and one teaspoonful sugar; add slowly one-half cupful milk, one egg slightly beaten, and one tablespoonful olive oil. S. a. a. with a timbale iron, fry in deep fat and drain.

Melted butter may be used in place of the olive oil, but the latter will give more crisp timbale cases.

SALAD CHIFFONADE.—Shred two green peppers, remove the seeds, boil one minute and cool; shred one head of romaine, one large grape fruit cut in pieces, and three firm tomatoes cut in small pieces. Serve with a French dressing, marinating each one separately before putting them together.

Romaine is very similar to lettuce, and the latter may be used if romaine is not to be had. The combination of colors gives a very pretty salad.

PINEAPPLE MOUSSE.—Soak one tablespoonful gelatine in one-fourth cupful cold water; add one cupful hot pineapple syrup, two tablespoonfuls lemon juice and one cupful sugar. Strain and cool, color to a strawberry pink with Burnett's fruit red, and as the mixture thickens, fold in the whip from one quart thin cream. Pack in salt and ice four hours.

The pineapple syrup will prevent its thickening very rapidly, but if a larger quantity of gelatine is used, it will be perceptible in the taste after it is frozen.

The next lesson will be given at the rooms of the school, 372 Boylston St., Wednesday morning, March 2, beginning at ten o'clock. Consomme, Oysters a la Somerset, Chicken Timbales, Rolls, Shrimp Salad with Wine Jelly, and Imperial Pudding will be prepared. Single admission, fifty cents.

Farmers' Institute at Marshfield.

The first Institute of the season of the Marshfield Agricultural Society was held Feb. 17, 1898. The president, Walton Hall presided.

The farmers and their wives in goodly numbers, considering the day was so cold and blustering, assembled to listen to an address upon poultry, by A. F. Hunter, but owing to illness he could not be present. So the society was thrown upon its own resources, and as poultry was the subject announced, the forenoon was devoted to a discussion of that subject and was entered into in an animated manner by Messrs. Peterson, Bourne, Blackman, Harlow, Turner and others. A collation was served at noon, after which the president, who owns the Webster Farm, showed by figures that he had made the farm pay the past year.

The subject of potato culture was afterwards taken up. Mr. Peterson said that for the scab on potatoes he had tried



sulphur with good success, sprinkling it in the drill with the seed, and Mr. Bourne gave his method of planting and tending the crop.

The general opinion seemed to be that it was a very uncertain crop, it has so many enemies to contend with. A discussion upon fruit was then entered into; the president thought that peaches could be raised again along the South Shore by raising seedlings, and selecting the right land, neither too rich nor too poor.

The time was well taken up and it seems well sometimes for a society to be in a situation to have to depend upon home talent, as it gives a chance to hear from those that would probably not be heard from under other circumstances.

H. A. TURNER,

Norwell, Mass.

The Hotbed.

On farms where a hot bed has been used heretofore, all that is generally necessary, is to clean out all the old material to make ready for new, says the agricultural editor of the Baltimore Sun. On farms where a hotbed is to be made for the first time there are several things to consider. First of all, the importance of locating the hotbed in a suitable place should be remembered. A hillside, not too steep, that slopes to the south is an excellent place to make the hotbed. If there is a tight board fence or a building close to the location on the north side, so much the better, as it will afford great protection from cold, raw winds, and thereby afford additional warmth. The next thing to do is to dig out in the hillside a space the size required for the bed wanted. The lower side should have 18 inches of soil removed and the depth at the rear will naturally be greater. The frame must be arranged at the top to slope at an angle, to give enough incline to shed the rain and afford the sun a chance to have access. If the sash is too level the sun will no shine well inside. The sides, after the pit is dug, should be walled up with good boards, and it is well to brace across top and bottom to prevent any bulging in after the soil is pressed down around the outside of the wall. The frame the sash rests on should rise about ten inches above the surrounding surface, and earth should be banked tightly up to the top on the outside, so as to cause all rain or moisture to run from the bed instead of settling around it. There should be from four to six inches of soil thrown in that is not frosted if the soil is frosted to the depth dug; if not, the soil will not be strictly necessary before the heating material is put in.

The best material for the hotbed is horse manure that has been carefully saved for several days and kept well packed in barrels. If the stable has been littered with dry leaves, it will improve the value of the manure for hotbed purposes. The manure is then put in the hotbed and trampled very firmly down. There should be at least a foot and a half after it is packed. On this put eight inches of fine, rich garden soil as can be obtained. Put on the sash, and after four or five days of sunshine the soil will be in proper condition for sowing the various kinds of seeds. Before and after the seeds are sown the sash should be covered at night with straw matting, boards or blankets. The right temperature for daytime is from 70 to 80 degrees and should never fall below 55 degrees during the night. Do not air very soon after removing the covering in the morning, as such a proceeding has a tendency to cause young plants to "damp off," as the gardeners term it.

Tarred paper makes excellent mats for hotbed sash. Some farmers make the hot-bed a permanent affair, having the walls made of brick laid in mortar. The plan is practical and saves work every year. A brick hotbed will last, while a wooden-walled one will soon rot and have to be replaced.

A writer in an exchange says: "Certainly it is in the interest of economy for every farmer to raise his own plants for field culture. Not only is there saving of money, but also there is a stimulus to plant more and to enlarge operation to the full extent of the manure supply. Anywhere in city, village or country, where a dweller may secure a piece of ground six feet by three he may raise, year after year, at an initial cost of \$2.50, all the lettuce one family can consume and have, besides, an all-winter garden, a bit of summer at the door, to divert the mind, to cheer, to make brighter, and what makes brighter, makes better."

Beacon Hill Notes.

The committee on agriculture has had under consideration the measure providing for legislation requiring a guarantee of health for all milk producing herds. These guarantees of good health were to be insisted upon by the local boards of health, who were authorized to withhold milk licenses from those who failed to get certificates of good health for their herds. But Mr. Frederick of Methuen stated that the measure had been misinterpreted by many of the farmers as a measure to allow the compulsory use of tuberculin, so he offered a substitute, to provide that all producers of milk outside of the State should be obliged to get certificates of health for their herds, either through the Milk Licensing Board, the Board of Health or the Cattle Commissioners. Representative Frederick spoke of the injustice of imposing rigid health regulations for Massachusetts producers, when competing producers just over the line in adjoining states were free to send milk down from herds that failed to pass the state health tests. He cited the instance of his nearest city, Lawrence, which was infested with milk from New Hampshire herds, many of whose cattle were animals that would be unable to secure health cards from Massachusetts authorities. Mr. Frederick thought the present law operated to the great disadvantage of the Massachusetts milk producers.

Dr. Peters of the Cattle Commissioners offered the information that the Lynn Board of Health imposed health regulations on all milk sold in that city, including milk that came from New Hampshire. Dr. Burr of the Boston Health Board thought that the Lawrence Board of Health had authority and power to impose and enforce regulations for a pure milk supply. Dr. Burr said further, that while it was a fact that certain health authorities imposed these restrictions, there would probably be trouble if the rule was a general one, without legislation conveying authority that is now taken.

Dr. Alexander Burr of the Boston Board of Health thought the original bill introduced by Representative Frederick a good measure and in the right direction with the single exception of the possibility of allowing boards of health to insist upon the tuberculin test as the guarantee of health for herds. To Mr. Harrington of Lunenburg, Dr. Burr admitted that health officers had no right to inspect barns or stables or milk depots outside of the limits of their own cities or towns. Dr. Burr thought that the health authorities had the right to prevent the receipt of milk from places that were regarded to be in an unsanitary condition, although the barn or stable might be located within the jurisdiction of the local health board.

GRANGE NOTES.

Old Colony Pomona Grange.

The Old Colony Pomona Grange met with Somerset Grange, Saturday, Feb. 19, and although the unpleasant weather kept many away, there was a very good attendance. After the business meeting in the morning a beautiful collation was served by the members of Somerset Grange, to which all did ample justice. After the dinner hour all listened to a very interesting program, prepared by Worthy Lecturer Maxwell assisted by members of Somerset Grange, which consisted of readings, vocal and instrumental selections, etc. A very interesting paper was read by the lecturer, Bro. F. H. Maxwell. A vote of thanks was extended to members of Somerset Grange for the cordial greeting extended visiting patrons. This grange is in a prosperous condition, and the outlook for the future is very bright. Everyone expressed a desire to meet there again.—E. L. Hopkins.

How to Hit the Bull's Eye.

Nelson J. Tuttle, who conducts large Livery Stables in Hartford, Conn., remarks: "For the last 25 years I have used Quinn's Ointment and find it a wonderful remedy for removing Cuts, Splints, Spavins, Windpuffs, Bunches." Trial box 50 cents, silver or stamps. Regular size \$1.50 delivered. Address W. B. Eddy & Co., Whitehall, N. Y.

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BITS OF FUN.

"Buy this patent churn," said the agent; "it will last for a lifetime." "Jes' so," answered the Frog Mountain inhabitant, "but a feller mout not live half that long."—Atlanta Journal.

"Habit" is hard to remove. If you take away the first letter, "a bit" is left. If you take off another letter, you still have a "bit" left. While if you take off another the whole of "it" remains. If you remove another it is not "it" totally used up. All of which goes to show that if you wish to get rid of a bad habit you must shake it off altogether.—Household.

The clergyman whose "study" is in the house; the literary man who works at home; the lawyer who spreads over the library table a lot of legal documents he has brought from the office—each and all will appreciate this wise boy. It is a wise boy who knows just what to do in an emergency.

First Boy (dropping in for a call): "What are you doing with your hat and coat and big boots on in the house?"

Second Boy: "Mamma is putting things to rights, and I want to keep these things where I can find 'em."—American.

Mr. Romanz—I tell you what, a baby brightens up the house, and that's a fact.

Mr. Practikal—Yes; we've had to keep the gas burning all night ever since ours was born.—Chicago News.

Now this is not bad, I think. A young man refused to take wine at a dinner.

"You are quite right," said his right hand neighbor. "There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip."

"Yes," said the youth smiling demurely, "it's a slip of a girl this time." And they all smiled at him.

A GOOD SHOWING.

We publish in this issue the annual report of the auditing committee on the condition of the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co., and it makes an especially good showing. The committee compliments, particularly, the business methods of the company. The John Hancock Co. is strictly mutual, and was founded with the avowed object of offering every facility for insurance, and every advantage to its insured that is or can be consistently offered by any company. There being no stockholders, the surplus of the company belongs wholly to the policy holders; and such part as the directors deem it unnecessary to hold as a margin for contingencies, is annually returned in the way of dividends.

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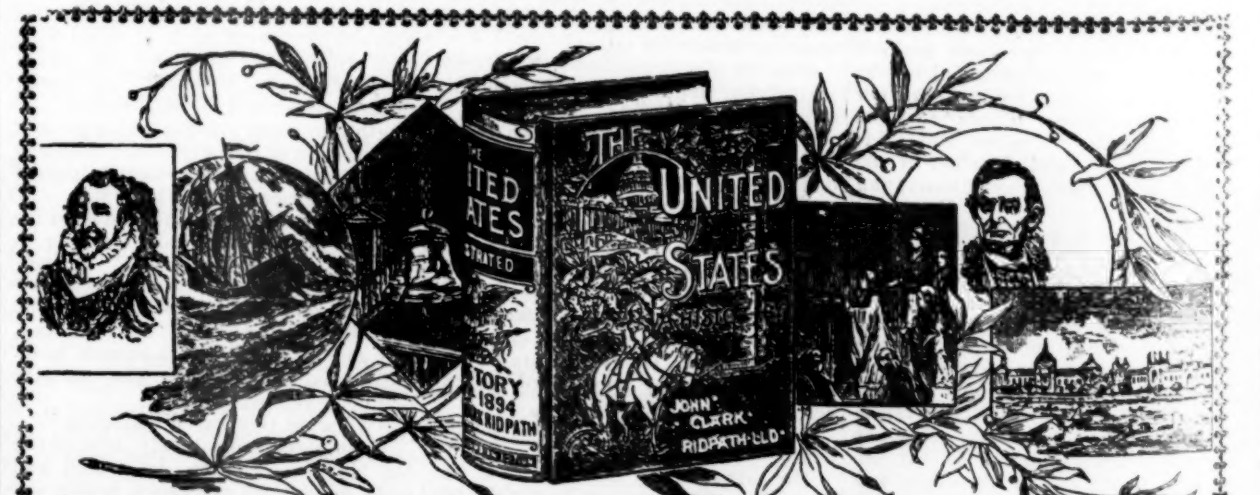
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